

SPINALL'S

ENAMEL

ENABLES YOU TO PUT A

BRIGHT FACE UPON EVERY-
THING!

The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

ONE PENNY. [Registered at the
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Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.)

HURRICANES IN THE PACIFIC.
Massacre of a Shipwrecked Crew.

Sydney, April 5.—Severe hurricanes have been experienced in the Pacific during the past month. Their effect appears to have been most disastrous on the coasts of the New Hebrides, where several ships were wrecked, including a labour vessel, which ran ashore on the island of Malicolo, five whites and thirty natives being drowned, while thirty others, who succeeded in reaching the shore, were massacred by the savages.

NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERIES.

The Agitation Increasing.
Newfoundland, April 5.—The agitation throughout the colony with regard to the modus vivendi recently arrived at between Great Britain and France, on the subject of the fisheries question, is becoming more intensified. Meetings are being held everywhere. Speeches are made and resolutions adopted demanding the abrogation of the treaties made a century ago, and urging the absolute necessity of removing the last vestige of French claims in the island. The speakers declare that the Legislature and the people will recognize no arrangement which does not totally extinguish the French maritime and territorial rights in Newfoundland. They denounce the ignorance of the home officials and the neglect of their interests at Downing-street, and pledge themselves never to cease the present agitation until the French are driven out and British supremacy is undisputed. The delegation which has been formed for the purpose of urging the grievances of the colonists in the mother country, will leave by the next steamer. It is intended to submit the memorials which have been signed by the people to the Queen and the Imperial Parliament, and the delegates will do their utmost to enlist on their side the sympathy of the British public. Sir W. Whiteway, Premier and Attorney-general, is also leaving by the same steamer for the purpose of consulting the Colonial Office on the subject.

HALIFAX, April 5.—The Herald announces that the Newfoundland Government will propose the repeal of the Bait Act, replacing it by a provision for the purchase of bait by fishermen of all nationalities upon payment of license and tonnage fees. The export of bait to St. Pierre will, however, be prohibited.

NEW SOUTH WALES.
Sydney, April 5.—The death is announced of Mr. David Buchanan, a member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales.

CRITICAL CONDITION OF DOM PEDRO.
Cannes, April 5, 9.30 a.m.—The condition of Dom Pedro has become critical. His Majesty was in a comatos state during a great part of yesterday, and has received the last sacraments. Dr. Charcot, who arrived here yesterday, states that although the illustrious patient is very weak there is no immediate danger.

CANNIBALISM OF STARVING INDIANS.
New York, April 5.—A despatch from Winnipeg states that a letter has been received at that place from Hudson's Bay, reporting that during the past winter the Indians in the Athabasca district were in such a condition of starvation that in some instances they killed and ate their own children, as well as dogs and all kinds of domestic animals. The letter adds that great mortality now prevails among the Indians.

(CENTRAL NEWS TELEGRAMS.)
THE MISSISSIPPI FLOODS.

New York, April 5.—The worst crevasses which has yet appeared in the Mississippi embankment developed yesterday at Catfish Point, and an immense volume of water rushed over the land. Three persons were drowned, being caught without chance of escape. The damage to property has been immense.

WHOLESALE SMUGGLING.

New York, April 5.—It is stated that enterprising traders have smuggled millions of pairs of gloves from Germany into America, and thus defrauded the revenue of the high duty charged.

EXPLOSION IN CALIFORNIA.

San Francisco, April 5.—A disastrous explosion occurred yesterday during the driving of a tunnel at San Pauli, California. Six of the workers were killed. The borings were being made in search of oil.

ARREST OF ALLEGED MURDERERS.

New York, April 5.—Two Italians, named Manesaro and Caggiano, have been arrested, the former while working in a Pennsylvania mine, and the latter, who is a labourer, in New York, on an extradition warrant concerning them with the murder in Italy, in 1888, of one Gaetano Paolo. The circumstances of the case are stated to be that Paolo married Manesaro's sweetheart, and that to be revenged Manesaro and Caggiano waylaid the offender, who was held by Caggiano while Manesaro stabbed him to death with a stiletto. The commission of the crime was witnessed by a peasant, who feared to reveal what had happened until he learned that the two alleged murderers had emigrated.

FATAL ASSAULT ON A STAGE-MANAGER.

Mr. Thomas Martin, stage-manager at the Canterbury Music Hall, Birmingham, died on Friday, from the effects of a brutal assault made upon him by some roughs on Wednesday last. Mr. Martin was about to enter the hall at mid-day, when some loungers accosted him, and asked for passes. He declined to give any, and the roughs then followed him into the lobby. With the assistance of a barman, he attempted to eject them, but was knocked down and kicked on the head. Shortly after his removal to his home he became insensible, and died from concussion of the brain.

SEQUEL TO A FOOTBALL MATCH.

John William Downing, a silversmith, died on Friday at Sheldene from injuries received a fortnight ago after a football match at the Olive Grove Ground. Downing, with others, quarrelled in a local public-house, and the deceased was savagely kicked. Three grinders are in custody.

A boat with sails set was found early on Friday morning in Southampton Water. She was hired on the previous day by a gentleman, whose name is unknown, but he is supposed to have resided at Eltham. Nothing has been heard of him.

THE VOLUNTEERS.
The Easter Campaign.

(BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Already in the earliest hours of the week there was evidence of preparation for the peaceful campaign which will be so strong a characteristic feature of country life in the southern counties of England until Easter Monday is over. Piles of baggage had on Monday and Tuesday begun to accumulate at several of the London railway stations, and baggage wagons with blankets and stores had started with the parties proceeding in advance of the marching columns set down to follow south, south-east, and south-west during the later days of the week. The first pioneers belonged to the 2nd Kent Artillery, going to garrison the Newhaven Fort, the London Rifle Brigade proceeding to the depot at Winchester to rub shoulders in advance with those comrades with whom they will share danger whenever danger is to be shared, and the Artists' corps, whose marching detachment was as usual the very first on the road for the seat of mimic war. This detachment, whose very perfect equipment included an entrenching tool in the form of a sword-sabre, went down by train on Tuesday to Newington, with a short march of ten miles before them to Faversham, before bivouacking for the night. They were under the command of Captain Horsley, the muster being about 300 of all ranks. The Artists' advanced guard was followed on Thursday by one from the London Scottish, of which Captain Balfour was in command, and which was also fully equipped with the newest form of the Slade-Wallace equipment, the pouches and water bottles being disposed around a waist belt of brown leather appropriate to the grey uniform. In the opposite direction went the first of the contingents, which will in the interval before Monday swell Lord Abinger's West London Brigade to the dimensions of a respectable corps d'armes.

The Exodus

really commenced on Thursday morning, when at several points of the metropolis, early detachments from the battalions to form the four most important brigades were formed up and got off, the two earliest being the field battery of the Honourable Artillery Company and Captain Balfour's detachment of the London Scottish. The latter paraded at Charing Cross in one company, with a total strength of eighty officers and men, and took train by the South-Eastern line with the view of detraining at Sandling, a few miles on this side of Folkestone, where, before night, they proposed to have a brush preliminary. Captain Balfour having received information of the whereabouts of a convoy, escorted by Captain Hornsby's detachment of Artists, determined to attack if circumstances in any way permitted, although his information showed that the escort was much stronger than his own force, and Colonel Savile, commanding the Cyclist Corps (late professor of tactics at Sandhurst), went down by the same train as the London Scottish to act as umpire. By this train, which left Charing Cross at half-past ten, the advance guard of the Queen's Westminster Rifles proceeded to Hythe, under the command of Quartermaster Hunt, to take up quarters for the rest of their comrades, who to the number of fully 700, follow on Good Friday, under the command of Colonel Vincent, C.B., M.P. Small parties continued to leave throughout the day, and in the evening there was a fresh outbreak of Volunteer activity, the various stations of the main lines leading south-east and south-west being kept very busy by the Volunteers until past ten in the evening. At five the 2nd London Rifles paraded in good strength (about 500 of all ranks) at Waterloo, to proceed by train to Fort Elson, Portsmouth, and from that hour the trains running in that direction succeeded each other at short intervals loaded with Volunteers. Among the largest musters at Waterloo was that of the London Rifle Brigade, which went by special train direct to Winchester. The Duke of Cambridge's Own (2nd Volunteer Battalion, Middlesex Regiment), got off from Waterloo soon after seven, followed by the three battalions of Volunteers now attached to the City of London Regiment of Royal Fusiliers, all bound for the forts at Gosport and Fareham, and almost simultaneously another large body (City of London Artillers) left for the same destination by the London, Brighton, and South Coast route. It was not until a later hour that the earliest of the despatches of Volunteers for the Eastbourne Brigade took place. The corps here represented were the 1st Surrey Rifles, with the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th V.B., the Queen's (R.W.) Surrey, the 4th V.B., E. Surrey, and several companies of the 3rd London Rifles, who have decided to cast in their lot with the Surrey Brigade, which will, when made up, number nearly 4,000, and of which Brigadier-general Hamilton has taken command. Most of these went from the East-end terminus of the line, bound for Cuckfield, Hailsham, and other points a little north of Eastbourne, in order to finish the journey by marches on Good Friday and the following day. When the last trains had been despatched from London Bridge and Waterloo, it became evident that the total number of metropolitan Volunteers making use of the Easter holiday for purposes of military instruction will be as high, when the ranks are filled up on Monday morning, as in the time of the most successful of the old reviews. It may possibly be higher if the present magnificent weather is maintained, when the grand total of men out at the various points will scarcely fall short of 30,000 of all ranks.

The Folkestone Brigade.

Before nightfall of Good Friday, Brigadier-general Stracey had received all the materials of which he will have the manipulation during the next few days, except one or two very small bodies who are to join his splendid South London Brigade of nine battalions on Monday morning. Beyond the skirmish already referred to between the advanced columns of the London Scottish, under Captain Balfour's command, and the Artists, under that of Captain Horsley, nothing very exciting took place on Good Friday on the Folkestone field of action, but the value of the work done in carrying out the marches of the day and in taking up the bullets afterwards punctually and in good order cannot be over-estimated. Even a shot had been fired during the first day of the campaign, every officer and man engaged in it knew more of real soldiering in some of its phases than he did at the commencement. The brigade has no guns, except three Gardner machine-guns, sent by the Tower Hamlets Rifle Brigade, and no cavalry, unless fifty or sixty infantry men mounted on horses and about the same number mounted on cycles can be esteemed such, and the programme was necessarily stripped of all the showy items which Volunteers formerly so highly esteemed.

The death is announced of Lord Normanby in his 72nd year. He sat as M.P. for Scarborough from 1847 to 1851.

The total force amounts to about 3,600 men, the strongest battalions in the brigade being Colonel Howard Vincent's (Queen's Westminster), exceeding 600 of all ranks; the London Scottish (Colonel Lumas), over 500; and the Artists (Colonel Edis), about the same strength. The little Inn of Court battalion, which included a few men from Oxford and a few from Cambridge University, had the strongest muster of mounted infantry (twenty-two), and next to them came the Queen's, with twelve.

The Engineer Brigade.

The most interesting operations, from the spectacular point of view, are those projected in Sussex, but it would be unjust not to point out that here, too, the lessons involved in correct and punctual marching and the power of feeding itself under service conditions has been much more regarded than sham fighting. Colonel Athorpe, the C.R.E., the commander of the Engineer Brigade, had not all the troops he had been promised, for on account of the inconvenience of having a portion of the men of his brigade encamped under their own canvas, as Sir Alfred Kirby's battalion, night, would, and could have been, while the rest were in billets, the 2nd Tower Hamlets Engineers have withdrawn from the movement, except as regards one small but very fine body of young men (the Bedford School cadets), which is attached to Colonel Sir Alfred Kirby's battalion. But, in one respect, Colonel Athorpe has a great advantage over both Brigadier-general Stracey and Lieutenant-general Lord Abinger, who is at the head of the West London Brigade at Portsmouth—he has a battery of field guns, that of the Hon. Artillery Company, as well as a detachment of the Middlesex Yeomanry Cavalry. His force in infantry has also been swelled by a strong contingent of Lord Truro's brigade of Artillery acting as infantry. Of the two battalions of Engineers under Colonel Athorpe's command, the strongest was that of Colonel Balfour's 1st Middlesex, of which the actual commander for the campaign is Lieutenant-colonel Josselyn. Except a slight skirmish with some local troops that were encountered on approaching Hayward's Heath, the billeting place of the right column, and Lindfield, where the left column was to find its billets for the night, nothing was undertaken by the Engineer Brigade on Good Friday except marches, the length of which averaged about twelve miles for each column—namely, from Three Bridges to Hayward's Heath and Lindfield respectively. Colonel Athorpe was reserving his strength for Saturday, when an interesting fight was to occur on the hills beyond Ditchling. Soon after ten in the afternoon the men had reached their billets, and the regimental cooks had already begun their cooking operations. Nothing could better illustrate the advance made by the Volunteers within the period of ten years. When the Volunteer marching column was first invented by Colonel Drow, the commander then and now commanding the City of London Engineers, the same two battalions now marching under the orders of the commanding Royal Engineers were tramping along the same road to Brighton, but instead of reaching their billets in the early afternoon and enjoying the prospect of a well-earned dinner, the resting-places were often not reached till ten o'clock at night, with no prospect whatever of either "bit or sup," until the following morning. Undoubtedly the most important, if the most elementary, of military lessons has now been thoroughly well learnt by the Engineer battalions of the Volunteer service at all events. The commander reached his quarters at Hayward's Heath in excellent time, accompanied by his staff, Major F. C. Heath, R.E. (brigade-major), Major E. S. E. Chidren, R.E., and Captain Labandibordre, adjutant of the Honourable Artillery Company (aide-de-camp); Surgeon-major Haines, 1st Middlesex Engineers (brigade-surgeon); Captain D. Norton, 1st London Engineers, and Lieutenant C. Q. Henrques, 1st Middlesex Engineers, Colonel Athorpe's gallopers. The force met with was quickly beaten off, being of but small strength, and consisting of the Cuckfield companies of the 2nd Sussex Rifles. The local forces were under the command of Major Matherley.

"ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR."

At Wandsworth Police Court, James Hall, of 9, Sutherland-square, Walworth, and Charles Pressland, of 398, Wandsworth-road, were summoned before Mr. Newton, at the instance of the Board of Works for the Wandsworth District, for keeping a place for the performance of public musical and other entertainments within twenty miles of the cities of London and Westminster without a licence. Mr. W. Y. Young, who supported the summons, said the subject of complaint was a fair held on the rear of 398, Wandsworth-road. Hall had sub-leased the land to Pressland, the owner of the fair, which consisted of roundabouts, swings, and shooting galleries. One of the roundabouts turned an organ which kept up a continuous din. This, together with the report of firearms and the shouts of the men, was a source of considerable annoyance to the inhabitants, who chiefly consisted of poor people. He should ask the magistrate to commit the defendants for trial. Mr. Fairchild, the inspector of nuisances, was called to prove the existence of the fair. James Haux, who lived in close proximity to the fair, said the noise was so great that he had to live in the front part of his house. He had to get rid of a dog, because it would go mad. (Laughter.)—Other witnesses having given similar evidence, Mr. G. Catto, who represented the Folkestone Brigade, contended that his client was not responsible, as he was not keeping a place of entertainment. Mr. Newton drew attention to the Act of Parliament, and said a man had a right to be protected from the disturbance of a disorderly house. He suggested that Hall should put some pressure upon the other defendant to discontinue the nuisance. Mr. Castle maintained that he was right in point of law, but Mr. Newton told him that his client appeared to be the prime mover. He could not understand why the local authorities should have allowed the fair to exist so long as twelve months. He did not know what they could have been about, as it was reasonable that a man's rest should be disturbed by the playing of a steam organ. He suggested that the case should be adjourned for four weeks, to see if the defendants discontinued the nuisance. Mr. Young pressed for a conviction as Mr. Hall had stated that he would spend £200 in fighting the vestry. Mr. Newton, however, adjourned the defendants to summons, and strongly advised them to see that the nuisance was not repeated, remarking that such a state of affairs was perfectly monstrous.

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THE CREWE MURDER.

Reprise of the Younger Prisoner.
Letter from the Home Secretary.

A Liverpool correspondent telegraphs—Mr. Pedley, solicitor, of Crewe, who has conducted the defence of the prisoners Davies, condemned to death for the murder of their father on Friday received a communication from the Home Secretary, to the effect that the younger prisoner, George, would be reprieved. Richard is to be executed on Tuesday next.

A Crewe correspondent telegraphs that the following letter has been received by Mr. Pedley, the prisoners' solicitor, from the Home Secretary:

"Sir.—I am directed by the Secretary of State to acquaint you with the petitions which you have submitted on behalf of Richard Davies and George Davies, who are lying in the prison at Knutsford, having been sentenced to death, that he had this case under his most careful consideration, and that he has advised her Majesty to commute the capital sentence passed upon George Davies with a view to its commutation to penal servitude for life. In the case of Richard Davies the Secretary of State regrets that he has failed to discover any sufficient ground to justify him in advising her Majesty to interfere with the due course of the law.—I am, your obedient servant, E. LEIGH PEMBERTON."

Immediately on receipt of the Home Secretary's despatch, Mr. Pedley wrote to Mr. Matthews an earnest appeal on behalf of Richard Davies. The correspondence adds, that since his arrest, Richard had appeared collected, and always wrapped in a serious thought, while, on the contrary, George's demeanour has savoured of levity.

Family Interview.

The whole of the members of the Davies household at Hough journeyed to Knutsford on Tuesday to visit the boys, Richard and George Davies, under sentence of death for the murder of their father, in the little pony trap in which the deceased was when he was murdered, and passed by the scene of the tragedy. The party numbered eight persons, and were attired in the deepest black. They consisted of Mrs. Davies, widow of the murdered man; John Davies and his wife, son and daughter-in-law; Miss Davies; the little boy Freddy Davies, aged 10; a younger brother aged 8; and a daughter and son-in-law. The mother and children chatted cheerfully. On arriving at Knutsford, they proceeded to the prison, and, armed with the governor's authority, were admitted to an interview with the condemned. This was the first occasion the mother had spoken to the prisoners since their arrest, and the interview was naturally of a very painful character. John told his brothers of the efforts being made through the country in favour of a commutation of the sentence, and expressed himself confident that they would be successful.

CLEVER CAPTURE OF BURGLARS.

Several alleged burglars, as well as numerous persons charged with receiving, were arrested on Friday in the Clerkenwell district. As detective-servants Sowle, Blight, Robinson, and Mather were in the neighbourhood of Goswell-road, their attention was attracted by several men, some of whom they knew to be burglars, and in consequence they watched their movements. Four or five of the men proceeded along Allen-street, and, being suddenly missed, an examination of the gateway of Messrs. White and Co., provision merchants, was made by the police and recent marks of a jeweller or jemmy having been used were sought. The officers secreted themselves, and, after a time, they saw two men, one of whom carried a bag, afterwards found to contain implements used by burglars for forcing safes, &c., approaching the premises. Two of the officers made their way to the gateway, while the others planted themselves near to the gateway. The two men in the street recognised the officers, whistled, and ran away, and, at the same moment, two men ran out of Messrs. White's premises. The officers captured three of the men, and they endeavoured by violence to free themselves from custody. After several ups and downs on the roadway, during which one of the men was struck on the head with a stick before he could be overpowered, other assistance arrived, and the prisoners were removed to the Old-street Police Station, but not before several other men, supposed to be companions, had made an abortive attempt to rescue them. One of those men was also arrested. On the way to Old-street one of the prisoners was seen to throw something away, which afterwards proved to be a bunch of shotgun keys and picklocks. Detective-inspector Leach at the same time proceeded to a beer-shop in the neighbourhood, where he apprehended a man named Porter, and on searching his house a quantity of property, the proceeds, it is believed, of several burglaries which have been recently committed in different parts of the metropolis. Subsequently the officers searched the house in which some of the prisoners lived, and there they discovered many of the finest-made burglars' implements ever used, comprising large and small crowbars, jemmies of various lengths, stocks with all the necessary bits, drills, steel and wooden wedges, dark lanterns, oil for using on the tools, when at work, silent matches, &c. At a frieze shop the police apprehended a man named Porter, and on searching his house found a quantity of steel property, among it being a Gladstone bag, which, with other articles and £15 in gold, was taken from a house burglariously broken into several nights ago at Canehill. While the officers were engaged in the search a girl entered with a parcel of gentlemen's under-linens, which she said Porter had bought from a relative, and had asked for it to be sent to his house. The officers again proceeded to the beer-shop, and there found another man, Benjamin-street, Clerkenwell, a short time ago, and stealing a large barometer and other property, which had been previously found in the place. The prisoners were charged with being concerned in burglaries in different parts of the metropolis, and with feloniously receiving property knowing it to have been stolen. Two of them have already been convicted, one having suffered more than one term of penal servitude.

A BANKRUPT PRINCE.

Prince George Victor, reigning Prince of Waldeck-Pyrmont, has issued a decree placing his cousin, Prince Albert, under the guardianship of public functionaries of the principality, on the ground of his being a spendthrift and having wasted his fortune. Prince Albert maintains that the reigning prince is acting in this matter without giving him a hearing. He has been made bankrupt by some French creditors, but he declares that this disgrace might have been avoided by drawing upon his wife's fortune. The bankruptcy of the prince has created a feeling of painful concern among the royal families of Germany.

MADAME TUSSAUD'S EXHIBITION.

Several important additions have been added to this exhibition in view of the Easter holidays. The figures of H. M. Stanley and Emin Pacha have now been placed in the main gallery. They are modelled sitting under a tent discussing a map of Central Africa, and are attired in the uniform worn during the expedition. The figures appear natural and the likenesses are good. In the lower hall Mr. John T. Tussaud has just completed a very artistic and striking scene

STRANGE TRADES AND PROFESSIONS.

By STANLEY CATCHPOLE.

XII.—TICKET CARRIERS, &c.

Whether man turns to the right or to the left, or, if he feels so disposed, retraces his steps and turns backward, still should his cry be, " Beware! It is all the same, for he is bound to be done in some way or the other. The less a man's income the less he has for his own use, since he is fleeced much more in proportion than that man who possesses thousands."

The more one studies the trades and professions, the more one is surprised to discover on what a hollow ground of honest trade is sometimes built.

The master fleeces his employés by paying them so badly; the latter again set their brains in motion how best they can parlay a little extra profit out of their master. Unscrupulous traders fleece the public, and the public cheat one another. To sum up briefly, it is a matter of chicanery all the way round.

Every one knows that immediately some railway directors perceive there will be on such and such a day an extra amount of traffic, up go the fares, but although the employés work longer hours and much harder, they receive no extra pay. Consequently the first thing which enters the servants' heads, as it did their employers, is, "How can we profit by the additional trade?"

Perceiving how strictly unjust the company or its representative to the community at large, who possess the chance come to the conclusion that they will also have a bit. They cannot do the public, so they do their employers. This is done by the aid of a person called the "Ticket Carrier."

This person is generally a man unknown to everybody except a few of the employés, but three men can work remarkably well together with the aid of the unknown.

A is the booking clerk; B the passenger. Before B there are twenty people; behind the same number, all going to the same destination. It comes to B's turn to pass the barrier; his ticket is tendered, looked at, and returned un-punched. B enters a carriage, starts, arrives, gets out, and gives up his ticket. The last passenger to come through is the "Ticket Carrier." Something is handed to him by the collector; not a word is exchanged between them; they know their business too well to speak. The "Ticket Carrier" crosses the bridge and takes the first train up to town, de-cends, and saunters leisurely about. He is not alone. Half a minute before, some one passing swiftly behind him took a small packet out of his hand. This packet consists of twenty or thirty uncoupled tickets, to be resold for the benefit of a few "in the know."

It has been whispered that as much as £30 have been shared between four men alone, who have met at twelve o'clock at night in some quiet pub and divided the spoil.

Of course, this is a barefaced robbery, and punishable by law, as it is a robbery for a cabman to charge sixpence beyond his just fare; but it is not a robbery for a gigantic company to fleece the public.

Another way in which the dividends of our railway shareholders is sweated is by a process as artful as it is inven-tive.

The "Ticket Carrier" in this instance, belongs to the feathered tribe, and is, I believe, what a pigeon fancier would call a "skinner" (a right proper name, for he assists in skinning a good many people), and employed only on long distances, say from fifty to one hundred miles. The train is nearly due and all is bustle and noise. The porters are busy putting the luggage away, and everybody else has something to do, as a well-dressed man, who carries a mahogany box, hands it to the guard, who, with a knowing wink, places it in his brake. Then the whistle blows; the train is off with its freight of first, second, and third-class passengers.

The train is out of sight, but not the owner of the box in the guard's brake. He looks at his gold watch, strokes his moustache, lights a cigar, and strolls along just to kill time. After about two hours he turns down a street, not far from the station, enters a house, mounts the flight of stairs, ascends a short ladder, and so on to the roof. On this roof is erected a sort of wooden hut, with a large flat top, upon which are several traps. Some twenty birds of the skinner breed are belling and cooing. Their master is now getting a bit fatigued, for he is standing upright and looking with anxious eyes in all directions. Three hours have passed since he winked at the guard, when right over his head, high up in the sky, he sees a small speck. He is all feverish excitement now; he waves his hand, then seizes hold of a long stick, upon the end of which a piece of red rag is tied. This he flourishes to and fro and whistles. The birds forget all about love-making and are on the wing, flying round in circles; some want to settle, but the man swears at them moving swifter his long staff. The small speck is coming nearer, he drops his signal flag, and down pop the twenty birds and with them another, who has swooped down, it seemed, from the clouds. It walks proudly to the man in the box or hut, who, gently taking hold of it, unties a small knot of fine silk lying on the back, which had been passed under the breast bone and under each wing, so as not to interfere with its flight. The delicate cord unloosened, down drop two thin packets covered by a tissue of rubber. These, when unfolded, are four first-class tickets, and as spick and span as when issued from the booking office three hours ago to the travelling servant of Lord Toulouze and his friends, and having had a journey by rail have been brought back resting against the little beating heart of the "Ticket Carrier."

But the trickster is still on the look out. After a time he deserts another bird in the distance, again he is all excitement, and again by twenty birds fly round round in a circle, while the signal flag is waved once more in the air until down swoops another stranger. This messenger brought four second-class tickets. After a third bird arrives upon the scene with four more tickets, making in all twelve—six first, six second. The owner of the well-trained birds throws out a handful of peas, and the three little innocent creatures, who unknowingly have been made accessaries of a punishable crime, are left in repose until wanted again. They have been on the same journey before, and know every hill and valley, every church spire and ploughed field.

Their master gaily whistles a merry tune and goes out round towards the station. He sees a young fellow about twenty standing at the corner, and they enter a public-house, call for a drink, and the tickets change hands to be resold, and the company not one atom the wiser.

After a day or so other birds are used on different lines, for your "Ticket Carrier" is much too knowing to play too hard on one, and going too often to the same station he would soon become known and get suspected. That, of course, would mean loss of living comfortably with liberty.

Yet he is not the only one who lives by his wits. He does not think he is doing a bit more wrong than the man who sells him a vile concoction called brandy, for which he has paid a shilling. That shilling first came out of the public's pocket into the railway company's; it then, with others, passed into the hands of a dishonest clerk, who again gives it to a barman. This young gentleman bangs it on the counter to test by its ring whether it is genuine or not, but catches it deftly in the palm of his right hand, and, holding it there unperceived by any one, gives the change. After a look round, the back of his neck wants scratching during the day. Some hags must be wrong with him, or why do so many shillings slip down his back between his skin and his shirt? When he has scratched enough he wants a night oil. He must have a agree in a music hall, and while there he meets with a companion, who never leaves him until he is fast asleep. When he wakes his head is splitting, his mouth is parched, and his pockets

are empty. The petticoat bird has flown with all his cash. He must not say a word, or he will lose his character for respectability, so he swallows his loss and saves his birth; while she, on her part, is knocked down by a brutal paramour because she has not brought back shillings enough. Out the bully rushes in a mad rage to a low billiard-room. He does not think so, but sharper people than he are waiting for him, and he is not long there before he has his pockets emptied. The sharpers, who made him so flat, speed off when night comes on to their different holes, called homes, where their wives, or creatures who call themselves so, are waiting with open hands for these same shillings. But, bless you, these shillings are bewitched. They never seem to fall into honest hands. It makes one think there are none. One goes for a pound of buttock steak, yet somehow the piece of fat hidden underneath the scale causes the pound to weigh only fourteen ounces. Another shilling is lost for a pound of cushion rashes. The buyer does not see one slice whipped away while the parcel is being wrapped up, which reduces the weight to thirteen and a half ounces. That artful little rasher is used thirty or forty times a day. It means a little gold mine to the proprietor of the shop, who bawls out, "Come on, ladies; prime Wiltshire cured, only eightpence the pound."

One of these said shillings was entrusted to a youngster of ten to post a letter—a knowing young shoot in his way. Watch him go into the post office. Instead of asking for a stamp, he begs the favour of change for a shilling, and duly receives it. The letter is then taken from his pocket, and, damping his dirty thumb, he sears the corner of the envelope. Hear him chuckle to himself. "Ha, ha! mother 'll think the stamp's fell off when she sees there is the marks of the sum."

A pound of pure French coffee made from burnt figs takes another shilling; a three-pound jar of splendid jam made from carrots and turnips reduced to a pulp sweetened with coarse foots melts another.

One of these shillings falls into the hands of a well who indulges only in "prime Partagas." They are guaranteed by the vendor to be thoroughly genuine and of foreign make. Yet it is a fact that they came into being at Southwark. Look at the intelligence beaming from the eyes of these newspaper arabs, who are amused at a "bloke" who has just given a shilling to a boy to eat change so that he may read his ha'porth of news. The other lads know that Jemmy Fly has flown; therefore they are laughing among themselves at the rage of the cheated "toff." It must be he has some of these stolen coins of the realm which fell into the hands of that poor old woman, aged seventy, who went to market a few weeks back, but before she had changed one was knocked down and brutally kicked by two ruffianly foot-pads, who got clear off with their booty.

It has more than once been mentioned by some of our best writers that a curse keeps company with bad money. And that curse, I verily believe, holds good with money obtained by trickery.

A BETTING TRANSACTION AND ITS EQUAL.

At the Sunbury Police Court, James Simpson, living at Church-road, Teddington, summoned William Harrison, a betting man, living in apartments at Oak Cottage, Teddington, for having used abusive, insulting, and threatening language towards him.—Mr. Simpson said he was at home the other afternoon, when he was called to the door to see some one. Upon going there he saw the defendant and another man in a trap. The defendant said, "Are you going to pay me my money?" He replied, "I don't owe you any." The defendant then said, "I will have it out of you, and if I cannot, I will bring a mob to it out of you, and not let his friend to 'pop out' and have it out of him." The defendant and his friend left the cart, and were rushing at him when a policeman came up. Witness told the defendant he would hear from his solicitor on the following day, and Harrison replied, "I'll do the same thing to your solicitor as I'll do to you." He had been abused by the defendant several times since last October, when his solicitor wrote to the defendant and cautioned him to his conduct.—The defendant: I can prove he owes me £18 by a betting transaction.—Mr. Mitchell (a magistrate): That is nothing to do with this case.—Complainant added that the defendant also called him a "wheeler," and threatened to have him stripped if he were found on a racecourse.—The other witness was called for the prosecution.—The defendant asked that the case might be adjourned, so that he could bring witnesses to prove that defendant owed him the money referred to; but the chairman replied that the bench could not do that in the face of such strong evidence.—The defendant said he could prove that the complainant had threatened to bring his racing men round him.—The chairman said the defendant would be bound over in the sum of £50 to keep the peace for six months, besides which he would have to find one surety in £20, and pay £10s. 6d. including costs. The chairman added that, in the event of default, defendant would have to suffer twenty-one days' imprisonment.

THE PERILS OF FOOTBALL.

We have frequently drawn attention, says the *Lancet*, to the severe and often fatal injuries that are caused by direct violence in the football field, especially among full-grown men, though probably many less apprehensible and not immediately apparent strains and shocks by the foundation of serious disease. In a recent discussion of a paper by Dr. Kenyon, on "The Hygiene of Exercise," at a meeting of the North-Western Association of Medical Officers of Health at Manchester, the president remarked that while football was a very valuable form of exercise for players who were thoroughly trained, yet for those who were for the most part lads in workshops and clerks in offices, and who only had the Saturday afternoon, it was a fruitful exercise, independently of the danger of broken bones, it seemed to him that there must be a large increase of heart disease and disease of the blood vessels which must have the origin in football." Of this no doubt medical men must have observed cases, and also have seen instances in which, after the effects of the immediate injury had apparently passed off, very serious results had subsequently shown themselves. Some sad cases of this character have come under our observation. In one instance a young man, holding a rising position, the only support of his mother, was thrown heavily, apparently only spraining his right shoulder, but, some weeks afterwards, the pain and weakness continued; it was found that the defendant and others and other scapula muscles were undergoing atrophy, and as there was no early prospect of his being able to return to his duties, he had to resign his appointment, to the jeopardy of his prospects in life. In another case, a lad of 18 was charged against and received a severe concussion on the chest. At the time he fainted, but was able to walk home shortly afterwards, he noticed an increasing difficulty of breathing whenever he went upstairs or attempted to run; it was then found that he was suffering from aortic regurgitation, the mischief being fairly attributable to the shock received in the charge. From that time he became a chronic invalid, and though he still lives, or was living a short while ago, he is only able to take carriage exercise. It surely is high time that an attempt should be made to frame rules by which the game may be rendered more scientific and less hazardous.

Serious disturbances have occurred at Darmund, Germany, in connection with the colliers' strike. As the men on the morning shift at the Koenigshütte were leaving work they were attacked and stoned by the strikers. The men durst not to intervene and arrested several of the rioters.

TO DALEYS, GUY HAM.—Lockyer's Supplier, H. R. Best, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100, 102, 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 114, 116, 118, 120, 122, 124, 126, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 144, 146, 148, 150, 152, 154, 156, 158, 160, 162, 164, 166, 168, 170, 172, 174, 176, 178, 180, 182, 184, 186, 188, 190, 192, 194, 196, 198, 200, 202, 204, 206, 208, 210, 212, 214, 216, 218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, 262, 264, 266, 268, 270, 272, 274, 276, 278, 280, 282, 284, 286, 288, 290, 292, 294, 296, 298, 300, 302, 304, 306, 308, 310, 312, 314, 316, 318, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336, 338, 340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350, 352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, 372, 374, 376, 378, 380, 382, 384, 386, 388, 390, 392, 394, 396, 398, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416, 418, 420, 422, 424, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436, 438, 440, 442, 444, 446, 448, 450, 452, 454, 456, 458, 460, 462, 464, 466, 468, 470, 472, 474, 476, 478, 480, 482, 484, 486, 488, 490, 492, 494, 496, 498, 500, 502, 504, 506, 508, 510, 512, 514, 516, 518, 520, 522, 524, 526, 528, 530, 532, 534, 536, 538, 540, 542, 544, 546, 548, 550, 552, 554, 556, 558, 560, 562, 564, 566, 568, 570, 572, 574, 576, 578, 580, 582, 584, 586, 588, 590, 592, 594, 596, 598, 600, 602, 604, 606, 608, 610, 612, 614, 616, 618, 620, 622, 624, 626, 628, 630, 632, 634, 636, 638, 640, 642, 644, 646, 648, 650, 652, 654, 656, 658, 660, 662, 664, 666, 668, 670, 672, 674, 676, 678, 680, 682, 684, 686, 688, 690, 692, 694, 696, 698, 700, 702, 704, 706, 708, 710, 712, 714, 716, 718, 720, 722, 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, 734, 736, 738, 740, 742, 744, 746, 748, 750, 752, 754, 756, 758, 760, 762, 764, 766, 768, 770, 772, 774, 776, 778, 780, 782, 784, 786, 788, 790, 792, 794, 796, 798, 800, 802, 804, 806, 808, 810, 812, 814, 816, 818, 820, 822, 824, 826, 828, 830, 832, 834, 836, 838, 840, 842, 844, 846, 848, 850, 852, 854, 856, 858, 860, 862, 864, 866, 868, 870, 872, 874, 876, 878, 880, 882, 884, 886, 888, 890, 892, 894, 896, 898, 900, 902, 904, 906, 908, 910, 912, 914, 916, 918, 920, 922, 924, 926, 928, 930, 932, 934, 936, 938, 940, 942, 944, 946, 948, 950, 952, 954, 956, 958, 960, 962, 964, 966, 968, 970, 972, 974, 976, 978, 980, 982, 984, 986, 988, 990, 992, 994, 996, 998, 1000, 1002, 1004, 1006, 1008, 1010, 1012, 1014, 1016, 1018, 1020, 1022, 1024, 1026, 1028, 1030, 1032, 1034, 1036, 1038, 1040, 1042, 1044, 1046, 1048, 1050, 1052, 1054, 1056, 1058, 1060, 1062, 1064, 1066, 1068, 1070, 1072, 1074, 1076, 1078, 1080, 1082, 1084, 1086, 1088, 1090, 1092, 1094, 1096, 1098, 1100, 1102, 1104, 1106, 1108, 1110, 1112, 1114, 1116, 1118, 1120, 1122, 1124, 1126, 1128, 1130, 1132, 1134, 1136, 1138, 1140, 1142, 1144, 1146, 1148, 1150, 1152, 1154, 1156, 1158, 1160, 1162, 1164, 1166, 1168, 1170, 1172, 1174, 1176, 1178, 1180, 1182, 1184, 1186, 1188, 1190, 1192, 1194, 1196, 1198, 1200, 1202, 1204, 1206, 1208, 1210, 1212, 1214, 1216, 1218, 1220, 1222, 1224, 1226, 1228, 1230, 1232, 1234, 1236, 1238, 1240, 1242, 1244, 1246, 1248, 1250, 1252, 1254, 1256, 1258, 1260, 1262, 1264, 1266, 1268, 1270, 1272, 1274

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**THE FIRM
OF GIRDLESTONE.**
 A ROMANCE OF THE
UNROMANTIC.
 BY A. CONAN DOYLE.
 AUTHOR OF "MUGAR CLARKE," "A STUDY IN
SCARLET," ETC.

CHAPTER XLVII.

LAW AND ORDER.

The ruffian Burt was so horror-stricken at the sight of the girl whom he imagined that he had murdered, that he lay grovelling on the railway lines by the side of his victim, moaning with terror and incapable of any resistance. He was promptly seized by the major's party, and the Nihilist secured his hands with a handkerchief so tightly and effectively that it was clearly not the first time that he had performed thefeat. He then calmly drew a very long and bright knife from the recesses of his frock coat, and having pressed it against Burt's nose to ensure his attention, he brandished it in front of him in a menacing way, as a hint that an attempt at escape might be dangerous.

"And who is this?" asked Baumser, lifting up the dead woman's head, and resting it upon his knee.

"Poor girl! She will never speak again, whoever she may have been," the major said, holding the lantern to her cold pale face. "Here's where the cowards struck her. Death must have been instantaneous and painless. I could have sworn it was the young lady we came after, if it were not that we have her safe down there, thank the Lord!"

"Where are these odors?" asked Von Baumser peering about through the darkness. "If I detect in the country, they will hang for the work of this night."

"There are off," the major answered, laying the girl's head reverently down again. "It's hopeless to follow them, as we know nothing of the country, nor which direction they took. They ran like madmen. Hullo! What the devil can they be?"

The sight which had attracted the veteran's attention was nothing less than the appearance at the end of the lane of three brilliant luminous sticks moving along abreast of one another. They came rapidly nearer, increasing in brilliancy as they approached. Then a voice rang out of the darkness, "There they are, officers! Close with them! Don't let 'em get away!" and before the major and his party could quite grasp the situation they were valiantly charged by three of those much-enduring, stony-hearted mortals known as the British police force.

It takes courage to plunge into the boiling surf and to carry the rope to the breaking vessel. It takes courage to spring from the ship's side and support the struggling swimmer, never knowing the moment at which a flickering shadow may appear in the deep green water, and the terrors of the deep turn its white belly upwards as it dashes on its prey. There is courage, too, in the infantryman, who takes a sturdy grip of his rifle and plants his feet firmly as he sees the lancers sweeping down on his comrades and himself. But of all these types of bravery there is none that can compare with that of our homely constable when he finds on the dark November night that the door on his beat is ajar, and, listening below, learns that the time has come to show the manhood that is in him. He must fight odd, in the dark. He must, single-handed, engage desperate men like rats in a hole. He must oppose his simple weapon to the six-shooter and the life preserver. All these thoughts, and the remembrance of his wife and children at home, and of how easy it would be not to observe the open door, come upon him, and then what does he do? Why, with the thought of duty in his heart, and his little cudgel in his hand, he goes to what is often his death, like a valiant high-minded Englishman, who fears the reproach of his own conscience more than pistol, bullet, or bludgeon stroke.

Which digression may serve to emphasise the fact that these three burly Hampshire policemen, having been placed upon our friends' track by the master of the Flying Bull, and having themselves observed manœuvres which could only be characterised as suspicious, charged down with such vehemence that in less time than it takes to tell it, both Tom and the major and Von Baumser were in safe custody. The Nihilist, who had an unextinguishable hatred of the law, and who could never be brought to understand that it might under any circumstances be on his side, pulled himself very straight and held his knife down at his hip as though he meant to use it, while Bulow, of Kiel, likewise assumed an aggressive attitude. Fortunately, however, the appearance of their prisoners and a few hurried words from the major made the inspector in charge understand how the lad lay, and he transferred his attentions to Burt, on whose wrists he placed the handcuffs. He then listened to a more detailed account of the circumstances from the lips of the major.

"Who is this young lady?" he asked, pointing to Kate.

"This is the Miss Harston whom we came to rescue, and for whom, no doubt, the blow was intended which killed this unhappy girl."

"Perhaps, sir," said the inspector to Tom, "you had better take her up to the house."

"Thank you," said Tom, and went off through the wood with Kate upon his arm. On their way she told him how, being unable to find her bonnet and cloak, which Rebecca had abstracted, she had determined to keep her appointment without them. Her delay rendered her a little late, however, but on reaching the withered oak she heard voices and steps in front of her, which she had followed. These had led her to the open gate, and the lighting of the lantern had revealed her to friends and foes. Ere she concluded her story Tom noticed that she leaned more and more heavily upon him, until by the time that they reached the Priory he was obliged to lift her up and carry her to prevent her from falling. The final hardships of the last few weeks, and this final terrible and yet most joyful incident of all, had broken down her strength. He bore her into the house, and laying her by the fire in the dining-room, watched tenderly over her, and exhausted his humble stock of medical knowledge in devising remedies for her condition.

In the meantime, the inspector having thoroughly grasped the major's lucid narrative, was taking prompt and energetic measures.

"You go to the station, Constable JONES," he ordered. "Wire to London, John Girdlestone, aged sixty-one, and his son, aged twenty-eight, wanted for murder. Address, Eccleston square and Fenchurch-street, City. Send a description of them. Father, six feet one inch in height, hat-top-faced, grey hair and whiskers, deep-set eyes, heavy brows, round shoulders. Son, five feet ten, dark faced, black eyes, black curly hair, strongly made, legs rather bandy, well dressed, usually wears a dog's head scarf pin. That ought to do!"

"Yes, that's near enough," observed the major.

"Wire to every station along the line to be on the look-out. Send a description to the chief constable of Portsmouth, and have a watch kept on the shipping. That should catch them!"

"It will," cried Von Baumser confidentially. "I'll bet money it will." It was as well that the German's sporting offer found no takers, otherwise our good friend would have been a poorer man.

"Let us carry the poor soul up to the house," the inspector continued, after making careful examination of the ground all round the body.

The party assisted in raising the girl up and in carrying her back along the path by which she had been brought.

Burt tramped stolidly along behind with the genuine policeman beside him. The Nihilist brought up the rear with his keen eye fixed upon the navy, and his knife still ready for use. When

they reached the Priory the prisoner was safely locked away in one of the numerous empty rooms, while Rebecca was carried upstairs and laid upon the very bed which had been hers.

"We must search the house," the inspector said, and Mrs. Jorrocks having been brought out of her room, and having forthwith fainted and been revived again, was ordered to accompany the police in their investigation, which she did in a very dazed and stupefied manner. Indeed, not a word could be got from her until, entering the dining-room, she perceived her bottle of Hollands upon the table, on which she raised up her voice and cursed the whole company, from the inspector downwards, with the shrillest volubility of invective. Having satisfied her soul in this manner, she wound up by a perfect shriek of profanity, and breaking away from her guardians, she regained the shelter of her room and locked herself up there, after which they could hear by the drumming of her heels that she went into a violent hysterical attack upon the floor.

Kate had, however, recovered sufficiently to be able to show the police the different rooms, and to explain to them which was which. The inspector examined the scanty furniture of Kate's apartment with great interest.

"You say you have been living here for three weeks?" he said.

"Nearly a month," Kate answered. "God help you! No wonder you look pale and ill. You have a fine prospect from the window." He drew the blind aside and looked out into the darkness. A gleam of moonlight lay upon the heaving ocean, and in the centre of this silver streak was a single brown-sailed fishing boat running to the eastward before the wind. The inspector's keen eye rested upon it for an instant, and then he dropped the blind and turned away. It never flashed across his mind that the men whom he was hunting down could have chosen that means of escape, and were already beyond his reach.

He examined very carefully the rooms of Ezra and of his father. Both had been furnished comfortably, if not solidly, with spring mattresses to their beds and carpets upon the floor. The young man's room had little in it beyond the mere furniture, which was natural, as his visits were so short. In the merchant's chamber, however, were many books and papers. On the little square table was a long slip of foolscap covered with complex figures. It appeared to be a statement of his affairs in which he had been computing the liabilities of the firm. By the side of it was a small half-bound diary. The inspector glanced over one of the pages and uttered an exclamation of disgust. "Here are some pretty entries," he cried. "Feel the workings of grace within me! Prayed that I might be given a livelier interest in the holy Scriptures! The book's full of that sort of thing!" he added, turning over the leaves. The fellow seemed to have played the hypocrite even with himself, for he could never have known that other eyes would rest upon this."

"Dorell's been some queer company among the elect if he is done!" Von Baumser remarked. "What's all this?" asked the inspector, tugging a heap of clothes out of the corner with his foot. "Why, here's a monk's dress!" Kate sprang forward at the words. "Then I did see him!" she cried. "I had almost persuaded myself that it was a dream."

"What was that?"

Kate told her story as well as she could, and the inspector made notes of it.

"The crafty old dog!" he cried. "No doubt he could reconcile it with his conscience more easily to frighten you to death than to actually kill you. He told you that cock-and-a-bull story to excite your imagination, and then feeling sure that you would sooner or later try and escape by night, he kept guard in this rig. The only wonder is that he didn't succeed in either killing you or driving you mad with fright."

"Never mind now, dear," Tom whispered, as he saw the look of fear spring into her eyes at the recollection of what had passed. "Don't think of these terrible things. You will soon be safe in Phillimore Gardens in my mother's arms. In the meanwhile, I think you would be the better for some sleep."

"I think I should, Tom."

"Are you afraid to sleep in your own room?"

"No, I am afraid of nothing, now that I know you are near me. I knew so well that you would come. I have been expecting you all the evening."

"I can never thank my good friends here enough for the help which they have given me," Tom exclaimed, turning to his companions.

"It is I who should thank them," said Kate, earnestly. "I have found friends, indeed. Who can say now that the days of chivalry are past?"

"My dear young lady," the major answered, bowing with all the innate grace of an Irish gentleman, "ye have warmed us by what ye say. I personally was, as ye know, under orders which left me no choice but to come. I hope, however, that ye will believe that had Mrs. Scally not occupied the place in me affection which she does, I should still be as prompt as my friends here to hasten to the rescue of a lady. Tobias Cleverley may be bold, Miss Harston, but his heart will never grow as hardened but that it will melt at the thought of beauty in distress." With this beautiful sentiment the major placed his fat hand over his heart, and bowed again, even more gracefully than before. The three foreigners behind made no remark, but they all stood in a line grinning in a most amiable fashion and nodding their heads as if to intimate that the major was expressing their muted sentiments to a nicely. Kate's last recollection of that eventful evening was the smiling visages of Von Baumser, Bulow, and the nameless Russian as they beamed their good night at her.

CHAPTER XLVIII.

CAPTAIN HAMILTON MIGGS SEES A VISION.

Era Girdlestone had given many indications during his life, both in Africa and elsewhere, of being possessed of the power of grasping a situation and of acting for the best at the shortest notice. He never showed this quality more conclusively than at that terrible moment, when he realised not only that the crime in which he had participated had failed, but that all was discovered and that his father and he were hunted criminals. With the same intuitive quickness which made him a brilliant man of business, he saw instantly what were the only available means of escape, and proceeded at once to adopt them. If they could but reach the vessel of Captain Hamilton Migg, they might defy the pursuit of the law.

The Black Eagle had dropped down the Thames on the very Saturday which was so fruitful of eventful episodes. Migg would lie at Gravesend, and intended afterwards to beat round to the Downs, there to await the final instructions of the firm. If they could catch him before he left, there was very little chance that he would know anything of what had occurred. It was a fortunate chance that the next day was Sunday, and there would be no morning paper to enlighten the French coast. It was nearly five and the sun was beginning to sink down again in the west when the fisherman, after gazing steadfastly ahead for some time with his horny hand shading his eyes, touched Ezra on the sleeve.

"See them breakers over there," he said, pointing over the starboard bow. Far away Ezra could see a long roll of foam breaking the monotony of the broad stretch of ocean.

"Them's the Goodwins," he said. "and them vessels in question were miles away, but Ezra brightened up at the sight of their destination, and he once again arranged his toilet and that of his father.

"Thank goodness!" he muttered with a long sigh of relief as he peered at the ships, which were growing clearer and larger every moment. "The outer one is the Black Eagle, or I am much mistaken. He's not gone yet!"

"That is the Black Eagle," his father said with confidence. "I know her by the cut of her stern and the rake of her masts." As they came nearer, still any lingering doubt was finally dispelled. "There's the white paint line," said Ezra. "It's certainly her. Take us alongside that ship which is lying to the outside there, Sampson."

The fisherman looked ahead once more. "To the barque which has just got her anchor up," he said. "Why, we won't be in time for to catch her."

"Her anchor up!" screamed Ezra. "You don't mean to tell me that she's off!"

"Look at that!" the man answered. As he saw that they saw first one great square of canvas appear above the vessel, and then another, until she had spread her white wings to their fullest extent.

"Don't say we can't catch her!" cried Ezra, with a furious oath. "I tell you, man, that we must catch her. Everything depends on that."

"She must take three short tacks before she's

two fugitives remained upon deck, drenched through with rain and with spray, but feeling that the wild turmoil around them was welcome as a relief to their own thoughts. Better the cutting wind and the angry sea than the thought of the dead girl upon the rails and of the bloodhounds of the law. Ezra pointed up once at the moon, on whose face two storm wreaths had marked a rectangular device.

"Look at that!" he cried. "It looks like a gullows."

"What is there to live for?" said his father, looking up with the cold light glittering on his deep-set eyes.

"Not much for you, perhaps," his son retorted. "You've had your fling, but I am young and have not yet had a fair show. I have no fancy to be bargained yet."

"Poor lad," the father muttered, "poor lad!"

"They haven't caught me yet," said Ezra. "If they did I question whether they could do much. They couldn't hang there for the death of one; you would have to swing, and that's about all."

About two in the morning they saw a line of lights, which the fisherman informed them was from the town of Worthing. Again before daybreak they scuttled past another and far brighter and larger area of awakening points, which marked the position of Brighton. They were nearly half way upon their journey already. As the dawn approached the dark storm clouds gathered away to the northward, and lay in a great shadow over the coast. On all other points the sky was clear save that here and there a single puff of white vapour sailed along like the feather of some gigantic bird floating in the ocean of air. These isolated clouds, which had been pearly grey in the dim light of early day gradually took a lilac tint, which deepened into pink, and then blushed suddenly to a fiery scarlet, as the red rim of the sun rose majestically over the horizon. All the heaven was filled with colour from the palest lightest blue at the zenith to the most brilliant crimson in the east, as though it were nature's palette on which she had dashed every tint that she possessed. The sea reflected the rich glow, and the tossing waves were gashed with scarlet streaks.

"Where's something white?" said Ezra, excitedly. He dove into the cabin and reappeared with a dirty table cloth. "Stand up here, father! Now keep on waving it! They may see you."

"I think as we are overhauling' of them," remarked the boy.

"We're doing that," his father answered.

"The question is, will we get near enough to stop 'em before they set off on the next tack?"

The old merchant was standing in the bows waving the signal in the air. His son sprang up beside him and flourished his handkerchief.

"They don't look more than half a mile off. Let us shout together." The two blared their voices in a hoarse roar which was taken up by the boatman and his son. "Once again!" cried Ezra, and again their shout resounded over the sea—long drawn cry it was, with a ring of despair and of sorrow. Still the barque kept steadily on her way. "If they don't go about we shall catch them," the fisherman said. "If they keep on another five minutes we are right."

"Do you hear that?" Ezra cried to his father, and they both shouted with new energy and waved their signals.

"They're goin' about," George burst in. "It's all up."

Girdlestone groaned as he saw the main yard swing back. They strained their eyes, waiting for the other to follow. It remained stationary.

"They have seen us," cried the fisherman.

"They are waitin' to pick us up!"

"Then we are saved!" said Ezra, stepping down and wiping the perspiration which poured from his forehead. "Go down into the cabin, father, and put yourself straight. You look like a scot."

Captain Hamilton Migg had found the liquor of the Cock and Cawpaw so very much to his taste, in spite of its vitriolic peculiarities recorded in a preceding chapter, that he rejoined his ship in a very shaky and demoralised condition. He was a devout believer in the homeopathic revelation that like may be cured by like, so he forthwith proceeded to set himself straight by the consumption of an unlimited quantity of ship's rum. "What's the good of havin' a pilot aboard if I ain't to keep sober?" he hiccuped to his mate McPherson. After which piece of logic he shut himself up in his cabin and roared comic songs all the way from London to Gravesend. He was so exhausted by his performance that he fell fast asleep, and snored stertorously for fifteen hours, at the end of which time he came on deck and found that the Black Eagle was lying off Deal, and that her anchor was just being hoisted for a start up Channel.

Captain Hamilton Migg watched the sail-setting with his hands in his pockets, and swore pronoun-

cedly at every one, from the mate downwards, in a hearty comprehensive way, which showed a mind that was superlative in petty distastefulities. Having run over all the oaths that he could think of, he dived below and helped himself from the rum bottle, a process which appeared to aid his memory or his invention, for he reappeared upon deck and evolved a new unarmy-jointed explosive at the man at the wheel. He then stood in gloomy majesty up and down the quarter deck, casting his eyes at the sails and at the clouds in a critical way calculated to impress the crew generally with a sense of their captain's extraordinary sagacity.

The Black Eagle had gone about for the second time, and was just about to free himself from the Goodwin and head out into the Channel, when Migg's eye happened to fall upon the fishing boat in pursuit and the white flutter in her bows. He examined her with his glass, steady as a rock, and his hand was very shaky. After a short inspection a look of astonishment, followed by one of recognition, stole over his features.

"I've got them again, Mac," he remarked to the mate.

"Get what, sir?"

"The diddums, the jumps, the visions. It's the change of air as has done it."

"You look all right," remarked the mate in a sympathetic voice.

"So I may, but I've got 'em. It's usually rats—rats, and sometimes cockroaches, but it's worse than that this time. As I'm a livin' man I look through the glass at that fishing boat astern of us, and I saw young Master Ezra Girdlestone in it, and the old boat standin' up wi' a yachin' cap at the side of his head and waving a towel. This is the smartest boat that ever I have had. I'll take some of the medicine left from my last touch and I'll turn in." He vanished down the companion, and having taken a

OUR OMNIBUS.

THE M.P.

We have had a taste of obstruction this week, not the resolute, cast-iron sort which prevailed in the piping days of Mr. Biggar and Mr. O'Donnell, but the paddling and the pettifogging kind in which Mr. Lebouchere and Mr. Pickersgill delight, and which is sometimes equally wasteful of public time. A new recruit has joined them in the person of Mr. Morton, who, to his great surprise, is himself member for Peterborough, and has transferred to Westminster the rancorous voice and objectionable manner which he was wont to inflict upon the City fathers at Guildhall. To him we owe the brilliant suggestion that Buckingham Palace should be handed over to the Radical club as an appropriate place for their meetings, probably on Sunday, that the royal stables should be let to Mr. Barnum, and that the Kensington Palace should be taken by the London County Council. These original suggestions, combined with a determined protest against the infamy of paying for a turncock and ratcatcher at the royal mews, were fit specimens of the statesmanship of modern Radicalism, but they suffice to waste a couple of hours of valuable time. Sir William Harcourt patronisingly smiles at these tactics, and makes no effort to restrain them, though his royal blood must surely be stirred by such exhibitions. Mr. Gladstone is now seldom present after dinner, and Mr. Parnell has been absent for some days, no one seems to know where, so that the small group of Obstructionists can do pretty much as they like with her Majesty's Opposition. Discipline for the time has gone to the winds.

Divided counsels are apparent both inside and outside the House. At the Windsor election almost every speaker sent down by the Gladstonian party had a separate programme to expound. Mr. Leveson-Gower, nephew of Lord Granville, and an aristocrat pur sang, declared for the immediate abolition of the House of Lords. Mr. E. B. Brett pushed Home Rule out of the arena, and declared that the first measure to be introduced by the next Liberal Government was one granting manhood suffrage, abolishing the property franchise and the plural vote. Mr. Handel Coe, on the other hand, put Home Rule first, and generously pledged himself to ruin the Irish Government with a Parnellite Parliament at the cost of £1,600 per head of the population, as against the £200 which, by his account, Mr. Haliburton is obliged to spend. Mr. Grenfell was less confident, and could only advise that Home Rule should be tried for a year, "and could be then abolished if it was found not to act." Finally, Mr. Gladstone himself appeared on the scene and sent a testimonial recommending Mr. Grenfell, not for his devotion to the Parnellite cause, but on account of his character, ability, and connections. This is what the leader of "the masses" has come to.

Sir John Gorst and his fellow-labourers at the Berlin Conference have come back highly pleased with the attentions paid them by the German authorities, from the Emperor downwards, and greatly satisfied with the re-uits of their mission. During their visit they were the guests one Sunday evening of Prince Bismarck, and were greatly mystified during dinner by the constant arrival and despatch of a stream of telegrams which seemed greatly to pre-occupy the attention of their host. They learnt the reason next day, for the Chancellor crisis was at that moment at its height, and the messages which created so much interest were from the Emperor himself.

Primrose Day promises to be the occasion for a political function of more than ordinary importance, for the annual meeting of the Primrose League is to be held on that day at Covent Garden Theatre, the largest suitable building which could be obtained. The headquarter staff of the league has recently undergone much reorganisation, and two gentlemen of exceptional ability have been appointed to responsible posts—Mr. Lane Fox to the vice-chancellorship, and Mr. John De Grey to the charge of the metropolitan district. The latest statistics will, it is believed, show a total membership of close upon a million, a startling result of five years' work. Lord Amhurst is at the head of the governing committee, or grand council, as it is called, and Lord Radnor and Sir W. Marriott are now his leading aides-de-camp.

The Budget night is fixed for April 17th, and the publication of the revenue returns has stimulated curiosity as to Mr. Goschen's intentions to a high degree. With ordinary calculations, we can now reckon on a prospective surplus of between two and a half and three millions, and a realised surplus for the past year of about a million, after deducting the large grants made to the relief of local taxation. Speculation as to what Mr. Goschen will do with his money must at present be more or less idle; but it may be useful to recall to recollection some of the questions with which he is to some extent pledged to deal, and which may involve changes in taxation—such, for instance, as the incidence of taxation upon landlord and occupier, the rehabilitation of the gold coinage, the duty on silver plate, the beer duty, and possibly some dealings with trustee savings banks and the issue of limited liability companies. Leaving free education and the abolition of the tea duty out of the question for the present year, a popular Budget could probably be constructed by a remission of a penny in the income-tax, with a reduction of the beer and silver duty, and a grant to the county councils of a solatium in place of the lost wheel tax. This would leave no margin for any heroic re-arrangement of local taxation, or any large scheme of relief in indirect taxes. To the latter Mr. Goschen is believed to be averse, and, considering the large falling off in the spirit revenue and the small number of dutiable articles on which the Exchequer have to rely, it is not likely that the free breakfast table will be realised this year, at any rate.

OLD IZAAK.

Working men anglers have had anything but a pleasant time of it since the Thames closed. Disappointment has been their lot Sunday after Sunday, although some good takes of fish are to be had of. I took part in the Rye House competition, and with a number of brother anglers, had to seek shelter from the heavy rain in a neighbouring inn. Whilst there I noticed that there seemed to be a general opinion that the competition should be fished in the Thames. Some even went so far as to say they would not take part in it next year unless such was the case. I give this as a hint to the Anglers' Benevolent Society.

Being in the neighbourhood of Pentonville on Monday evening, it occurred to me to call on the Great Northern Brothers. I received a very cordial welcome. Mr. J. A. Fitch told me that the previous day he had an exceptionally fine take of roach close to Rye House, ten fish weighing 8lb. Messrs. J. K. Fitch and Parkin had takes of 14lb. 12oz. and 14lb. 6oz. respectively. During my stay with the above-mentioned club, I was pleased with the unanimity with which they voted a guinea to the Thames Angling Defence Fund now being raised at Maidenhead. Other clubs will do well to follow their example.

The members of the Brentford Piscatorial Society were certainly unlucky in having fixed on the same day as the University boat race for their dinner, and they were well advised to postpone it. It will, however, take place on the 9th inst., under the presidency of Mr. J. Bigwood, M.P. for the division. Mr. Leopold de Rothschild takes a keen interest in the welfare of this society, which enjoys exceptional privileges from the Grand Junction Canal Company.

South London anglers will hear with satisfaction that the lake at Wimbledon, known as the Wimbledon Park Lake Fishery, is now under new management and bids fair to be one of the best

fishing grounds near London. I am informed it has been re-stocked with some fine roach, upwards of 10,000 fish having been consigned to the water within the last month or two. Angling friends speak highly of this fishery, and as the train service is good it is not to be wondered at that it should meet with patronage.

By the way, I hear mention of a new angling society being enrolled. It is to be called the Alma, and has already a goodly number of members. Its headquarters are situated in Vere-street, Strand. I wish it success.

I am informed that the Bennington waters at Brookhouse will remain open to anglers until May 15th. This extension will be a boon to those fishermen who have plenty of time, and, no doubt, on Easter Monday will be much appreciated.

The prizes (thirty-two in number) won in the Rye House competition, were presented on Tuesday last at the Swan, Bethnal Green-road.

The Killarney Angling and Casting Tournament, for amateurs and professionals, commences on Monday. This is held under the auspices of the Kerry Preservation Association. No winner is to be allowed to take more than one prize in each competition. Easter Monday will be entirely devoted to the angling contests, which should afford plenty of scope to the angling capabilities of our brethren in the Emerald Isle.

The 1,000 Itchen trout from Mr. Carey's, of Winchester (500 being a present from Mr. Carey to Mr. E. B. Marston, for the Thames, and 500 purchased by the committee of the T.A.P.S.), were successfully turned into the City waters on Friday, March 29th. The fish, a splendid sample, averaging six inches in length—a good many being eight inches and over—were distributed in the following manner:—A start was made from Kingston, where 100 were placed in the river opposite the baths; the second instalment, also consisting of 100, were turned in at Thames Ditton, immediately below the island facing the famous Swan Inn; 200 were placed in the Sunbury Weir stream at the back of the lock; and a further 200 in the Chertsey Weir stream.

Orders were then given for the steam launch Victoria to proceed direct to Penton Hook, and in this retired branch of our dear old river the remainder, about 400, were placed. I venture to believe there is no stretch of the Thames from Staines to Isleworth Church Ferry more suited for the purpose or in higher favour with the trout angler. The ancient waterway round the bend (at least a mile) is generally less frequented by pleasure boats than any other reach on the lower river. Water birds still rove here in solitude, butterflies are always numerous, and the genuine Thames trout is fairly plentiful. Mr. A. Nuthall, J.P., chairman of committee and treasurer, placed the fish in the river, and was accompanied on the expedition by Mr. Carey, of Winchester, and Messrs. Knechtli, Wright, and Brougham, of the T.A.P.S.

PIPER PAN.

Mdlle. Janotha has sent me a letter of thanks for the help given in these columns to the concert organised by her on behalf of the Arabella Gossard Fund. She tells me that the gross receipts were, in round numbers, £700, and the expenses about £100, so that a sum of at least £600 will have been obtained through Mdlle. Janotha's sympathetic efforts in aid of the sister artist who was once the idol of English amateurs.

Another correspondent, writing from Islington, complains of "the careless way in which the advertised programmes of Messrs. Chappell's popular concerts are prepared." He sends the newspaper announcement of the concert on March 24th, in which MM. De Groot and Joachim were advertised to play Beethoven's sonata, opus 96, whereas they played Beethoven's opus 30, sometimes called the "Banjo" sonata.

It appears that my correspondent attended the concert "armed with the score" of opus 96, which was, of course, useless under the circumstances. I sympathise with him, having on more than one occasion found the advertisements of the Monday Popular Concerts unreliable. Generally, however, any changes made in the concert arrangements are inserted in the advertisements of the day on which the concert takes place. Concert-givers cannot always rely on artists being at their posts, but should, as far as possible, avert the infliction of disappointment and annoyance on the public by timely announcement of alterations.

Mr. and Mrs. Henschell, Miss Fanny Davies, Mdlle. Geisler-Schubert, Mdm. (Radeker) Semion, Mdlle. Gamboni, and other artists gave gratuitous aid at the concert on behalf of Miss Helen Konway's Orphanage for Children of Deceased Musicians, 10, Darnley-road, Notting Hill. From inquiries I have made I am able to recommend this deserving charity very strongly.

Miss Kenway devotes the whole of her time and energy to the orphans, whom she educates and prepares for those positions in life to which they appear to be best suited. Many pupils are received without payment; others pay small sums, which hardly defray the cost of their board. Lady Thompson, Mrs. W. G. Cusins, and other ladies who periodically visit the orphanage speak highly of the excellent results of Miss Kenway's self-sacrificing efforts, and amongst the musicians and music-lovers who peruse these pages I hope there may be some who will contribute a small portion of their earnings to Miss Kenway's orphanage.

During "Holy Week" there have been fewer concerts than usual, but Mr. Ambrose Austin announced his annual Good Friday concert, with a strong list of artists: the Royal Choral Society, for the same date, Handel's "Messiah"; and the Crystal Palace sacred concerts in the afternoon and evening.

For Easter Monday great preparations have been made. The Carl Rosa Opera Company will perform Balfe's "Bohemian Girl" on Monday afternoon, and Bize's "Carmen" in the evening, and Drury Lane Theatre is likely to be filled to its utmost capacity. M.M. Alfred Reed and Corney Grain will re-open with an entirely new entertainment, entitled "Carnival Time," and Mr. Corney Grain's new holiday sketch, "Tommy at College." These novelties will be presented at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

The Moors and Burgess company, the Mohawks, and the Bohee Brothers will provide extra attractions, and Mr. Sims Reeves, with other artists, will sing at a concert to be given by Mr. W. Carter at the Albert Hall. The Crystal Palace managers have provided a copious bill of fare, including the services of the Coldstream Guards and other military bands, and Easter Monday pleasure-seekers will find themselves confronted with what our French friends describe as "the embarrassment of having to choose."

A little bird has whispered to me that Adelina Patti has fixed May 14th for her re-appearance in the metropolis. On that day, and on May 31st, she will sing at the Albert Hall, and those who wish to secure seats had better make haste.

I also hear that the great Spanish violinist, Sarasate, will appear at St. James's Hall on June 7th, with Madame Marx as pianist; and on June 14th and 21st at orchestral concerts, conducted by Mr. W. G. Cusins.

The second Philharmonic Concert of the season drew an immense audience, who were delighted by the masterly performances of the Belgian violinist, Ysaye. The selections from the opera "Charlotte Corday," by Benoit, who conducted, were scarcely worthy of the locale; and the vocal solos by another Belgian composer, Uberti, sung

by the Belgian basso, Blanwaert, were not much better. Too much Belgian music is apt to become depressing.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

An extraordinary story comes from a correspondent at Gosport. A small stuffed elephant used to stand in the centre of the museum of the Royal Naval Hospital, Haslar, Gosport. From the constant practice of visitors, who always stroked the hide with their hands, it became quite smooth and shiny and denuded of hair. It was subsequently removed to another position, where one side was protected by a wall. It is now affirmed that the hair on that side has grown again and is as abundant as before. This story seems to me very improbable. The elephant had been in the museum for over thirty years, and it is not easy to believe that after that period its hair would be able to recover from the effects of such treatment. It is not possible that the hair had merely become pressed down into the beast's skin, and that freedom from rubbing permitted its springing up again? This hypothesis seems preferable to the other.

Another farmer has been gored to death by a bull, this time up in Westmorland. As usual, he trusted to his long familiarity with the animal for safety, and was quietly leading it along when the brute went for him and smashed all life out of his body. Surely farmers ought to have learnt by this time that bulls are not to be trusted. Of all animals they are the most liable to sudden paroxysms of fury, and when once in that condition old friendships count for nothing. To my way of thinking, no bull should ever be at large without buttons on its horns and hobbles on its legs. That would, at all events, afford some chance of escape to human beings who incurred its wrath.

The slaughter of seals in the Arctic regions goes on as merrily as ever, judging from the news just received at Dundee from Newfoundland. Particulars are given of ten sealers which have pretty well completed their cargoes; the takes range from 15,500 in the case of the Falcon, to 1,500 captured by the Walrus, the aggregate for the ten vessels being 61,000, or more than 6,000 each. This, be it remembered, represents only a small portion of the total slaughter in a single season; but it is enough to make one wonder whether extermination can be far off. No doubt the seals are very prolific, and some thinning of their numbers is necessary in their own interests as well as ours. But thinning is one thing, wholesale destruction quite another, as the Lincolnshire farmers have found to their cost. Having exterminated the wild animals that used to make war on the rats, they now have to deal with him themselves, and a very costly business it seems likely to prove.

Mr. A. A. Smith informs us that there is at present on Mr. Lane's poultry farm at Highgate a duckling with four legs, which is quite strong and healthy. It prefers to use the two front ones for walking with, but the others are quite well formed. My correspondent suggests that if it uses all four to swim with it will beat all records in that line.

I saw a paragraph in a morning paper recently to the effect that a "Peruvian giraffe," in a menagerie at March, in Cambridgeshire, had given birth to a young one, which was said to be the first giraffe born in England. What a Peruvian giraffe is I do not know, for the giraffe is an inhabitant of Africa, and is not to be found on the American continent. Perhaps the animal meant was a llama. There seems to be no other beast which could in any way answer the title. The statement that no giraffes have been born in England is quite incorrect. Very many have been born at the Regent's Park Gardens.

It is a pity that the giraffe cannot be turned to some useful service. An animal with such an eccentric neck ought to be able to be employed in some manner. He might be trained by gardeners to reach down fruit from lofty boughs to them, or by teaching him to hold a lighted match in his mouth might become a really efficient lamp-lighter. Cleaning upper windows would be a suitable employment if he could be trusted not to swallow the rag with which he worked. The cold winds of London might, however, be prejudicial to an animal who is capable of such an extent of sore throat, although doubtless a thick collar might be made to protect that elegant portion of his frame. A few giraffes would add greatly to the beauty of London streets.

I have received from "Nat" a small cardboard box, which has evidently suffered severely in the post and is quite empty. From the note written inside it I gather that it contained butterfly, caught in a blacksmith's shop, at Stratford, on the 28th of March. A small cabbage butterfly has also come to hand from Salisbury, caught on the 25th of the same month. On the same day Mr. W. Gibbs captured a fine specimen of the red admiral in a small garden.

Mr. W. Eddystone mentions a case of intense affection shown by a Scotch terrier. His mistress went to the seaside, leaving him with the rest of the family. For nearly a week the dog absolutely refused to take food, but lay at its mistress's door all day whining. It did not recover its spirits until her return, when its joy knew no bounds.

THE ACTOR.

I was agreeably surprised to find so large an audience at the Lyceum on the occasion of the Irving Dramatic Society's matinee. An amateur performance of a little-played historical drama by Shakspeare was not calculated to "draw" largely, yet the theatre was wonderfully well filled, though not, of course, crowded.

I am now inclined to pity those playgoers who were not present at the "show," for undoubtedly they lost a good deal. To begin with, "Henry IV., Part I," is so rarely put upon the stage that the genuinely enthusiastic amateur should hardly have missed this opportunity of seeing it. Then, the whole representation was calculated greatly to raise one's opinion of amateur capacity, for certain of the parts were rendered with great ability, while the elocution generally was better than professionals usually give us.

Very foolish indeed are those lovers of the theatre who despise the amateur actor. He may be the Irving or Willard or Tree of the future. There are, of course, a number of theatrical families by whom the stage is constantly supplied with recruits, but an increasing proportion of actors must, in the future, owe their first training to the amateur stage. Moreover, the much-derided amateur is one of the very best patrons of professional dramatic performances.

A very pleasant matinee was that which Miss Minnie Bell (formerly of the Comedy and other theatres) gave at the Steinway Hall on Tuesday. It included the first representation of a little comedy adapted from the French by Miss Bell, and played very agreeable by Mrs. William Greet (née Graves) and Miss Sylvia Grey, the well-known Gaiety dancer. There is a disposition, apparently, in some quarters to discourage Miss Grey's efforts to shine as an actress as well as a dancer; but such treatment is very unfair, for Miss Grey has decided aptitude for acting, and her ambition is praiseworthy. In the little piece I refer to, she played very nicely indeed, being well seconded by Mrs. Greet.

Miss Bell herself took part, with Sir Morell Mackenzie's son, in another adaptation from her pen, and she was assisted in the course of the afternoon by several well-known actors. Mr. Albert Chevalier was so successful in his "Coster-monger's Courtship" that he was induced to give his "Funny, without being vulgar," and that, again, was so loudly applauded that he again

came forward and sang his mirth-provoking parody on "The Garden of Sleep." Mr. F. H. Macklin and Mr. Brandon Thomas contributed admirable recitations.

On Easter Monday students of the stage will have to decide whether they will go to the first performance of "Dixie" at Terry's, or to the opening of the new theatre at Richmond, both of which events, unfortunately, are to take place simultaneously. Sentiment will, no doubt, induce many to go down to Richmond, especially if the day be fine. The place is indelibly associated, theologically, with the older Kean, and it is pleasant to know that the stage traditions of the place are about to be added to and maintained.

It was at the old Richmond Theatre that Helen Faucit made her actual first appearance on the boards. The story is told of her in her book, called "Shakspeare's Female Characters," in the article on Juliet, the part in which she made her debut. She and her sister had stolen into the theatre one day, got on to the stage, and, for fun, rehearsed the balcony scene in the tragedy. They thought they had no audience, but they had—the proprietor of the building—who was so pleased with what he heard that he induced the young novice to play the part in real earnest before the public. Three years later she essayed the same part before a body of London playgoers—her first appearance on the stage.

A brother gossipier, in one of the daily papers, suggests that it would be a great convenience to theatre-goers if managers would have a clock put over the proscenium in their theatres, as a guide to those who have to get home by train. We fear that most pittrers would never see a clock so highly placed; it would be practically out of their line of vision. But fancy the managers deliberately giving their patrons an opportunity of noting the passage of time, and of getting impatient, perchance, at the slowness of speech or action on the stage! Our contemporary must have a very low opinion of the shrewdness of our amusement providers.

GENERAL CHATTER.

It is to be feared that Mr. Elliott Lees has made an evil reputation for himself among pious rustics in the Midlands. They denounce him for profanity in naming the horse he rode in the House of Commons Steeplechase "Dam Un." That is their way of pronouncing Damon.

That "greyhound of the sea," the City of Paris, appears to have run a very narrow chance of going to Davy Jones's locker. Thanks, however, to the fine weather, and to the splendid behaviour of her officers and crew, she got safely into port. How the accident occurred remains to be explained. It almost looks as if her machinery had been previously strained by the exceptionally high speed at which she is usually driven. It I remember rightly, she had a cruel knocking about little time back during a fierce Atlantic storm, and it is possible that her machinery then received some injury which was not observed at the time.

Now that's a "movement" which all politicians can support without twinges of conscience—the movement to ensure greater purity of beer. Perhaps I ought to except Sir Wilfrid Lawson and his fanatical tail; they may argue that the more impure is the beer vended by publicans, the less the temptation to drink it. That argument does not hold water; the thirsty soul will always quench his thirst with whatever liquid comes handy. I have, before now, drunk water containing living organisms perceptible to the eye sooner than allow my tongue and palate to remain parched. It is the same when a man is fatigued with fatigue or mental depression; he will drink anything which promises to give way to this yearning; my only purpose is to refute the idle theory that bad beer acts as a check on consumption.

So the sons of St. Crispin are in revolt. They have my entire sympathy in their demand to do their work on the employers' premises instead of at home. The latter practice is objectionable on every ground. Not only does it conduce to sweating, but it makes these toil-laden dwellings unwholesome and uncomfortable to the last degree. Cheap boots and shoes are all very well in their cost, but cheapness is bought too

CLIPPINGS FROM THE COMICS.

(From *Mooshins*.)

Mr. Asquith has had a somewhat Q.C.-ious attack of influenza.

We hope we shall not be accused of irony if we described the Volunteers as our rifle tower of strength.

The Easter holiday causes such a crowding of work to many a business man, that it is a regular worry to him how Easter tide over it.

JOSEPH IN EGYPT.

Ere Joseph into Egypt went,
Past Baring was his strong dissent;

He went, he saw, and he concurred—

Egyptian Dizzy had not erred.

A photographer living in Klausenburg, Transylvania, has succeeded in solving the problem of photographing in natural colours. He should be careful always to inform his sitters of the fact, or the result in the case of some ladies, will be hardly what was looked for.

The journeymen hatters have almost to a man decided in favour of the Sunday opening of museums. The hatters were tested by a poll and, of course, they could not resist that.

A Mr. Knox is returned, by Mr. Parnell's desire, to Mr. Biggar for Cavan. The Irish have no gratitude. Poor Mr. Biggar, who made his fortune out of bacon! To replace him by a Knox, bedad! It is an injustice to pig.

There is no truth in the rumour that the dairy-men of London are on the verge of forming a milk-canis institute for the protection of their interests. It is the flimsiest and falsest churnalistic invention.

(From *Punch*.)

SOCIAL ECONOMY.—Mrs. Scrooge: I'm writing to ask the Browns to meet the Joneses here at dinner, and to the Joneses to meet the Browns. We owe them both, you know.—Mr. Scrooge: But I've heard they're just quarrelled, and don't speak—Mrs. Scrooge: I know. They'll refuse, and we needn't give a dinner party at all!

AT THE "ZOO."—Arabella: Oh, Aus—Mr. Brown, let's go to the apothecary. I think the monkeys are such fun!—[He did not propose that afternoon.]

WHAT OUR ARTIST HAS TO PUT UP WITH—AND HOW HE RETALIATES.—She: Oh, he may be a genius. But I confess I don't care for the society of geniuses.—He: How very personal of you. It's as if I were to confess I didn't care for the society of handsome women!

TIT FOR TAT.—Captain Pullem (having just effected a "swop" with his friend): Now, I'll be straight with you, old man. That horse you've got from me is a bit of a crib-biter!—Friend: Oh, don't mention it, old chap. You'll find mine to be a confirmed runaway!

The Mayfair Bow—Goode, Baird, and very indifferent.

A "Scratch Company"—A cat show.

Lost, somewhere between Land's End and John O'Grat's, a highly-treasured heirloom, known as the "British Sense of Fair Play." It disappeared immediately after the issuing of the report of the Parnell Commission, and has never been seen or heard of since. Many applicants have claimed to have re-discovered it; but, from Sir Ch-rd W-hat-r and Sir W-l-m H-re-r, to L-rd D-n-r-n, and (last and least) Sir W. M-r-r-tt, all have absolutely failed to substantiate their claims. Any public man, of whatever party, who can prove his possession of the lost treasure by making a speech embodying a judicial survey of the judges' report, without party feeling, special pleading, or paltry spite, will, on applying personally to Mr. Punch, be handsomely rewarded!

(From Judy.)

A JAR.—Leila: A present from Charlie, papa. Ah, he's a man after my own heart!—Father: Nonsense. He's a man after your own money!

THE TAURUS (?) OR SOMETHING NEAR IT.—Wife: Oh, Gerald! Gerald! You've been drinking with that dreadful Mr. Gray again.—Husband (who has been keeping Good Friday): Norravirabit, my dearest—hic tea—hic—clubbed—hic—rooster bunch—hic—light tack indi—hic—jehuah!

SCATS.—He: The old lady is very fond of cats, don't you know; a regular old philanthropist, or whatever you call it.—She: Better say feline-thropist. Mr. Numskull.

SAN WELLERIS.—"That is a moving sight," as the country clergymen exclaimed when he beheld the mounted police dispersing a crowd.

"You're going to be hung," as the cartload of rubbish said to the sign board. "You're going to be shot," as the signboard replied, to the rubbish. "You've been the making of me," as the boot said to the shoemaker. "Clothes up in the rear," as the old lady observed when she was going to cross the muddy street. "Dress up in front," as the young lady remarked, when she was desirous of exhibiting her small feet and new boots.

"I go to the wall," as the hillbopper said.

(From *Fun*.)

ANOTHER PARROT GOES WAGON.—He: You remind me of Tennyson's Maud: "Eoses are her cheeks, and a rose her mouth." And oh, the bliss to kiss that rose—not, no, your flower, I mean the rose that gives out no scents.—She: No, mean!—[And now they never speak when they pass by.]

HEARD IN THE ROW.—Fair Pedestrian: What! Another new hack, Captain Bayard?—The Captain: Yes, couldn't stand the other any longer. Too slight in the barrel by a long way; and then she was developing a splint. Positively fit for nothing, unless it were to carry a lady, don't-cher-know!—[In her opinion she had carried a brute too long.]

A SILVERY TONGUE.—Swell: Very sorry, my man. No copers.—Tramp: Ah, thin! Would I be affer supposin' that a gentleman of your quality would carry the dirty things!—[Gets a shilling.]

EDUC-ACTLY!—Messrs. Sparagnapane and Co. yearly hatch out numerous novelties in Easter eggs. Their present season hatches of "new-laid" are full of beauty and variety—nice as they are novel, and are sure to please the chicks.

A GREAT UNDERTAKING.—Burrying the past. Some people can tell the time by a sundial, but we never heard of any one being able to by a crocodile.

(From *Funny Folks*.)

PLEASE DON'T!—A Viennese baker is advertising himself by announcing that one loaf out of a thousand has a golden dust in it. The lucky purchaser, when he cuts his bread and discovers the coin, must be emphatically pronounced to have come in for "a slice of luck."

THE VOICE OF THE SHAMMER.—Tramp: Beg pardon, sir; can you 'elp a pore man! I've lost my voice, and now I'm out o' work!—Old Gentleman: Out of work because you lost your voice! Are you a vocalist?—Tramp: No, sir; I sell haddock.

A DIVIDED GIFT.—Husband: Which shall it be, Ethel, the diamonds or the brougham? I can't give you both.—Wife (hesitatingly): I think I'd like—well—one of the earrings and a dog-cart.

WHERE LADY BARRISTERS SHOULD PRACTICE.—At maiden assizes.

THE RIGHT MAN IN THE RIGHT PLACE (to judge by his name!):—Mr. Pick-ard, the boss of the Miners' Union.

A BAR IN MUSIC.—An injunction to restrain an operatic performance.

Meteorological Note.—Naturally as mad as a March 'air: This month's wind when it gets a tilt.

Poor Relations.—Badly-told stories. The Principle of Betterment:—Matrimony. A Regular Settler:—The colonist.

(From *Amy Sloper*.)

"You were a little astonished, my love," said the Only Great One and a Quarter, "to think that I came home so early." And Mrs. Sloper slowly shook her head. "Well, first of all, I did think it might have been that Alexandria letting fall the coal-scuttle down the kitchen stairs; and then I thought as how the milkman was trying to stable his pony for the night in the hall; but when I heard dear Tootsie a-saying, 'Lor, pa, don't you get rubbing your nose against poor Snatcher, or the smell of the "awwesomed" will annexiate

him; and then I knew at once it was my dear old half-quartern bider, &c." But Sloper smiled not. They tell me her eyes are of turquoise blue, and her fair shining hair of a golden hue.

I should not care if 'twere redder, For I'd rather she had the gold in the bank, And the turquoise in a ring on her finger lank, Then, oh! how quickly I'd wed her.

Friend: Ah, doctor, I hear you are going abroad. Well, you have one consolation; you need not be afraid of suffering from mal-de-mer.—Doctor: Why not?—Friend: Why, because you are so accustomed to sea sickness, to be sure.

A weekly contemporary, in describing a political meeting, says: "that 1,000 hearts were beating anxiously while 1,000 eyes were watching the eloquent orator." No doubt the other 1,000 eyes were closed in the act of winking at the bunkin he was talking.

FIRST INNOCENT DARLING: Oh, do look at those photographs in the window! Isn't it horrid? I would never pose as a professional beauty.—SECOND INNOCENT DARLING (and bosom friend of the first): No, dear, of course not; you would not have the fact.

THE OTHER NIGHT, WHEN I GOT TIGHT, As is my custom to When cold or hot, or I have not Got anything to do, My wife began, as most wives can, To cackle like a goose, I said, "Shut right to say I'm tight, 'Cos I've been on the loose."

"There's nothing really so nice as a wood school treat, after all," said Mrs. Spillitkin. "With the nice young fellows you can possibly dream of swinging of you, and you know that your blue silks are the really-really, and what with the kiss-in-the-ring, etc., it's quite too-oo.

But when, what with going round and roundon the roundabouts, the cream and milk are churned into solid Gorgonzola, and the rain comes on and half one of your eyebrows is melting down your nose, and your line-of-beauty improver is squashed flat from falling over a heap of ginger-beer bottles, then, I'm not quite so much taken up with school treat as Spillitkin is with brandy and port, after a brace of smoking concerts."

It is one of the strange exemplifications of cause and effect that when you see a stockbroker remarkably sober, you may be sure that money is remarkably "tight."

SOCIETY GOSSIP.

(From the *World*.)

The Berlin correspondents who describe the Emperor William as proposing toasts in bunchers of champagne are unaware of the fact that his Majesty never drinks French wine, and the beverage which they take for champagne is really sparkling hock. The Emperor usually drinks either Rhine wine or Moselle, mixed with some natural mineral water, and the sparkling wine is reserved for toasts.

Both as regards rapidity of movement and the amount of sightseeing accomplished in a given time, the King of the Belgians has quite eclipsed the once famous achievements of the Emperor of Brazil. Leaving Lasken at two a.m. on Tuesday, he lunched with Sir William Mackinnon shortly after one p.m. in Cork-street. Wednesday was given up to the Congo Exhibition, a visit to the Prince of Wales, a Congo dinner at the Burlington, an inspection of the British Museum by electric light, and a midnight journey to Manchester, where His Majesty went over the canal works from end to end, but found time to place a magnificent wreath on the tomb of Mr. Hutton, the well-known Belgian consul, who recently died. Next day he was at Edinburgh, making an equally careful examination of the Forth Bridge and visiting the archaeological curiosities of Dumfriesshire. Soon after his arrival from Manchester on Thursday evening he dined with Lord Tweeddale at the New Club, and rushed away to the continent.

It is admitted by every one that Mr. Balfour's speech on bringing in the Land Purchase Bill was one of his greatest achievements. It was not difficult to trace the hand and influence of Mr. Gladstone throughout the scheme it explained, and it is said that Mr. Gladstone on its conclusion told his supporters that he saw "Goschen everywhere," a fact he evidently did not relish. Much, however, he disliked Mr. Goschen. Mr. Gladstone is a far too experienced a financier not to appreciate thoroughly the strong points of the bill. His questions to Mr. Balfour were answered with ready alacrity, and when he sat down no one was ready to continue the discussion. Mr. Parnell was present, but was silent, foreshadowing the policy which he and his followers, it is said, intend to pursue of letting the bill pass and ignoring it completely. Mr. Balfour made a great impression on the House, and has made another distinctly forward step in his official career.

The Princess Victoria and Maud, have been giving sittings to Mr. C. Turrell for their miniatures at Marlborough House. I am glad to see that this delightful form of portraiture is once more reviving; it is unaccountable that the two water colour societies, so completely ignore this branch of their art, and have done so always, even at a time when it was rewarded with honours at the Royal Academy, and when no room in Trafalgar-square was more popular and crowded than the miniature-room.

IN FIXING THE CLAY ON THE GRAFTS first smear a little all over the matting and also across the top of the wound, then make a poultice of clay, and enclose the whole of the limb where the grafts are inserted, working it thoroughly so that no crack may be left. In grafting young stocks the usual plan is to graft close to the ground, rub a little clay over the parts, and then turn them up, leaving just the end of the graft above the soil.

RECENTLY PLANTED FRUIT TREES may be headed back if the heads are thin or branches to lay a good foundation. This work is very often neglected, and that accounts in a great measure for the hundreds of imperfect specimens of fruit trees there are everywhere to be seen. Amateur planters want to be gathering fruit almost as soon as the trees are planted, but this is a peevish and pound foolish system to adopt if the tree is to have a long and useful life. The object of cutting back a fruit tree after planting is to get enough branches to form a well-balanced head, and trees that are started right will never go wrong afterwards.

THE SPRING FLOWERS are very beautiful now; the primroses in the sheltered woods in the country are quite a sight. Of late years the common primrose has been hybridised, and now we have primroses of many shades of colour. This is a good time to sow seeds if any have been left over from the autumn, which is the best time to sow the choice hybrid forms; in fact, the seeds of all the primrose family germinate best when sown as soon as ripe.

ARTIFICIALS FOR WINDOW BOXES. W. E. H.—As you do not wish to disturb the plants in your window boxes, you may use artificial stimulants. Bones used in the way you propose will not be sufficiently quick in action. Sausage would be serviceable, as would also sulphate of ammonia dissolved in water, or a little sprinkled on the soil and watered in immediately will give strength and vigour to the leaves and blossoms of your plants.

BUTTONHOLE FLOWERS FOR A LONDON GARDEN. Buttonhole.—The following produce small, neat flowers, and making allusion to difference in taste, some of them will be useful for the purpose named. Carnations and pinks may be raised from seeds, though they will not flower till next year. Brompton asters, phlox Drummondii (plants of these may be purchased cheaply), Indian pinks, sweet peas, cornflowers, and chrysanthemums (various), forget-me-nots (now will flower next spring), nigromantia, dwarf German scabious in variety.

DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT AT BETHNAL GREEN. At the London County Sessions, Edward Carey, a respectable looking man, about 30 years of age, residing in Norah-street, Bethnal Green, a French polisher, surrendered to his bail to answer a charge of having behaved in a most improper manner to about half a dozen little Sunday school children. The defendant pleaded not guilty.—Mr. Burnie prosecuted; Mr. Candy, Q.C., and Mr. Arthur Hutton represented the prisoner.—The jury found the prisoner guilty, notwithstanding a very able defence made for him by Mr. Candy, Q.C., who called many highly respectable witnesses as to character.—In passing a sentence of twelve months' imprisonment upon him, the learned chairman said he had been very properly convicted. He saw no difference between his offence and that of deliberately indecently assaulting the children.

ATTACKED BY A WOMAN AT THE ALTAR. An exciting scene has taken place in Berlin at the wedding of Mr. Probst, a prominent and handsome young merchant, to Miss Frohmann, a beautiful blonde. Just as the bride was about to have the ring placed on her finger, Miss Hermann, a dark-eyed woman, with dishevelled hair, rushed at her and tore the wreath of orange blossom from her head. Then, seizing the unfortunate bride by the throat, Miss Hermann almost strangled her before the astonished witnesses recovered her. It seems that Mr. Probst had left Miss Hermann's house, and because the object of her love, Miss Frohmann, was introduced to Probst at Miss Hermann's house. When she discovered that her adored lodger was in love with her friend, Miss Hermann's reason began to give way, and this culminated in the violent attack at the wedding. She is now completely insane.

THE GARDEN.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR "THE PEOPLE.")

Covering a Naked Wall with Annuals.

"Millington" says:—"Having a blank wall which I wish to cover, I should feel obliged by your informing me the proper time to sow sweet peas, scarlet runners, and sunflowers." All the above, except the scarlet runners, may be sown at once, as also may canary creepers, tall nasturtiums, convolvulus, &c.

ANNUALS IN THE BORDERS

may be sown any time now with every prospect of success. The very small seeds must not have much covering, or some of them may fail to get through. The eighth part of an inch is covering enough for all small seeds. Large seeds, such as sunflowers and lupins, may have a quarter of an inch of light soil over them, but inexperienced gardeners usually cover their seeds too deeply. Sweet peas may be covered one inch deep if the soil is not heavy. They will soon work through at this season.

THE SNIRLEY POPPIES are very pretty and if sown now in patches of considerable size they will be very bright and pleasant features in the borders for a considerable time. The Shirley poppies have been evolved from the wild poppies of the cornfield, and include all the colours to be found in poppies.

Sowing Lupins.

There is a wonderful variety of colour and growth in the lupin family, and any one having a poor border that scarcely anything else will grow upon may sow it with lupins in mixture, or the back of the border may be sown with tall lupins, and the front with Tom Thumb nasturtiums. Quite a sensation might be made with these two plants if one had scope enough, say a border four or five feet wide, half to be sown with lupins in mixture, and the front half to be sown with lupins or planted with Tom Thumb nasturtiums, and the border half with a large piece of ground. The seeds are very cheap. A very small sum will plant a large piece of ground. The sweet-scented tobacco (Nicotiana affinis) is a great favourite, especially with the ladies. Seeds sown now in a part of the border or in a pot in doors will soon germinate, and when large enough should be planted thinly where they are to flower.

The Cucumber Bed.

This is a very good time to make up a cucumber bed for summer bearing. The manure had better be turned and intermixed to drive off some of its rankness, if very fresh. The bed need not be so large now as would have been necessary a month ago, as the sunshine will do a good deal of the forcing if rightly managed. Three and a half feet high at back and three feet at front will be ample height for the bed. Beat or tread it down firmly, and then put on the frame and shut down the lights till the heat gets up. When the temperature becomes steady, put in the hills of soil and set out the plants as soon as the soil is warm through. Do not have the soil too light. This is a principal cause of the fruit turning yellow at the point and refusing to swell. Turn the soil, not too finely broken, mixed with three parts of old manure in a mellow condition, will grow cucumbers very well, giving liquid stimulants if necessary when the plants are bearing freely.

The Grafting of Fruit Trees

may be done now; the sap is fairly in motion. The principal art in grafting is to get the parts to fit properly, and there must be a junction of the two barks on at least one side. The novice wishing to get his hand in might practice on the whitethorn or some of the common hedge plants, as after one knows how to do it time must be given up to practice before one can get expert.

In Fixing the Clay on the Grafts

first smear a little all over the matting and also across the top of the wound, then make a poultice of clay, and enclose the whole of the limb where the grafts are inserted, working it thoroughly so that no crack may be left. In grafting young stocks the usual plan is to graft close to the ground, rub a little clay over the parts, and then turn them up, leaving just the end of the graft above the soil.

RECENTLY PLANTED FRUIT TREES may be headed back if the heads are thin or branches to lay a good foundation. This work is very often neglected, and that accounts in a great measure for the hundreds of imperfect specimens of fruit trees there are everywhere to be seen. Amateur planters want to be gathering fruit almost as soon as the trees are planted, but this is a peevish and pound foolish system to adopt if the tree is to have a long and useful life.

ARTIFICIALS

THE THEATRES.

Miss Bessie Hatton is to appear some time during the season in a dramatisation of Mr. Bret Hart's "M'Kiss," adapted in collaboration by the author.—A generous emulation will shortly be started between the companies of the Criterion and the Vandeville, who are to be seen simultaneously in "She Stoops to Conquer." The representation at each playhouse ought to serve as an advertisement for the other.—The last performance of "The Dead Heart" is announced for the 5th of May, after which the remaining nights of the season, to close at the end of the month, will be occupied with representations successively of "The Bells," "Louis XI.," and "Olivia."—The success attending the recitals by Miss Amy Earle at the Empire has led to her engagement to give two of these interesting entertainments at the Prince's Hall, in Piccadilly, on the afternoons of May 26th and 27th. Queen Constance's scenes from "King John," lately so interesting a feature of the Crystal Palace dramatic entertainment, will be repeated at Prince's Hall.—The production of "The Linen-draper" at the Comedy, and "Cerise and Co." at the Prince of Wales', being arranged for the afternoon of the 17th inst., must necessarily clash unless one or other management, wise in time, changes its fixture.—The friends of Mr. Forbes Dawson are about to give him a congratulatory benefit on convalescence after his severe illness; a new play by the benefactor will be the chief dramatic feature of the occasion.—Miss Millward and Mr. Laurence Cautley have been engaged for three years by Mr. Augustus Harris for Drury Lane.—Mr. Leonard Boyce is also engaged to play the heroes of melodrama at the Adelphi, where he will first appear in August in the Simca-Buchan new piece.—A fresh departure is to be made next Christmas at the Alhambra, where a pantomime will be produced on the subject of "Beauty and the Beast."—"Whittington" will be the theme chosen for the next Drury Lane pantomime.—The playgoing public will be glad, if only for their own sakes, that Mr. Hare, who has been much depressed in health of late, has been able to rest through Holy Week, prior to his re-appearance in "A Pair of Spectacles," as these lines go to press on Saturday.—"The Burlesque" is the name given to a new theatre to be opened in the autumn at the West-end.—Ladies will be interested in learning that Mrs. Kendal not only designs her own stage dresses, but those also of the female members of her company. This information has just been confided by the popular actress to an American interviewer.—M. de Haemcourt's Passion play, wherein the Virgin Mary and the Saviour figure as characters, and which as a consequence, was vetoed for stage representation by the official censor, will, after all, be heard in Paris, at the Cirque d'Hiver, but as a recitation only, the reciters being the actors originally designated for the leading personages, Madame Bernhardt, M.M. Garnier and Bremonde. The piece will lend itself to such an exposition as being lyrical as well as dramatic. The recital is given at the instance of Madame Bernhardt, who is said to be entranced with the beauty of the dialogue, of which she elects to be the chief interpreter.—Madame Patti has lately built a private theatre at a cost of £4,000 by the side of her residence, Craigynos Castle, in Wales.—A bronze statue of Shakspeare, for which a deceased Chicago merchant has bequeathed £2,500, is to be erected in his native city. Is the sculptor to be British or American?—There will be morning performances of Easter Monday at the Grand, Britannia, Pavilion, and Standard Theatres. The revivals fixed for the holiday week at these and other outlying theatres include:—Grand, Mr. W. T. Terniss and Miss Millward's company; "The Harbour Lights," the Britannia, in the Banks; "Castles in the Air," and incidentals, Pavilion; "Human Nature," Standard; Mr. J. W. Turner's English opera company in "The Bohemian Girl" (morning) and "Maritana" (evening); Surrey, "A Dark Secret," with the tank scene and other original sensational effects; Marylebone, "Eileen O'ye," and Theatre Royal, Stratford, "The Romany Rye." At the Grand, Islington, a matinee of "The Lady of Lyons" will be given on Wednesday, with Mr. Terniss as Claude Melnotte, and Miss Millward as Pauline. New exits have been provided at the Pavilion Theatre, which will be opened for the first time on Monday.—The holiday attractions at the music halls will benefit largely from the influx of the numerous artists just released from their pantomime engagements. These artists will figure in the holiday entertainments framed by the proprietors and managers of the following halls:—Alhambra, Empire, London, Pavilion, Cambridge, Canterbury, Paragon, Middlesex, South London, Collins', Deacon's, Bedford, Hamermesh, Washington, Queen's, Tropicadero, Oxford, Royal, Foresters', Standard, Marlow's, Star, &c.—Mr. G. H. Macdermott will appear at the Canterbury Theatre of Varieties on Monday in a new sketch, entitled "Our Lads in 'Ed," of which he is part author.—The picture, entitled "America in London," by M. Philippotour, in the annexe of the Niagara Exhibition, is nearly completed and will shortly be opened.

THE LONDON BOOTMAKERS' STRIKE.

The canvass of the master bootmakers of the metropolis on Wednesday resulted in more than 800 firms expressing their determination not to give way to the demands of the men.

THE LORD MAYOR EXPRESSES HIS INDIGNATION.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Corre de Paso (Transvaal) Gold Fields Company was held on Wednesday at the Cannon-street Hotel, to consider the resolutions declaring that it was desirable to reconstruct the company, and that the company be wound up voluntarily. The Lord Mayor (Sir Henry Isaacs) presided, and there was a large attendance.—The chairman said that at the previous meeting, when the board asked the shareholders to give their authority to raise debentures for the purpose of carrying on the company, he told them that in case of failure to raise the sum in that way there were two other courses open—one was reconstruction, the other liquidation. The directors appealed to the shareholders with the view of raising the required capital on debentures, but with little success. This, however, was not surprising, but, having regard to that result, the directors sought to prepare a scheme of reconstruction, under which the property could be preserved, and he was bound to express his surprise that such a suggestion, conceived in the best interests of the shareholders, should have been opposed as it had been, and by such means. ("Oh, oh!") He referred to the circular issued by Mr. Calkin Lewis, and he regretted that on that occasion he (the Lord Mayor) was so prostrate that he could not do himself justice in replying to a carefully prepared indictment. The chairman at great length traversed the statements made by Mr. Lewis, some of which he characterised as "reckless and untrue." But for the damning speech of Mr. Lewis, the money would, he said, have been forthcoming, either from the shareholders or from persons outside. Further, he complained that Mr. Lewis had suppressed the fact that he was a solicitor, and had described himself as a gentleman. (Laughter.) "Hear, hear," and "Oh, oh!" He (the Lord Mayor) had done the best for the company, but, instead of bread, Mr. Lewis gave him stones. In conclusion, the chairman moved a resolution to the effect that, with a view to reconstruction, the company be voluntarily wound up.—Mr. McGavin having seconded, Mr. Calkin Lewis made a long speech, generally animadverting upon the way in which the company had been placed before the public and subsequently managed. He said his object was to make the vendors and those members of the Isaacs family who had and share disagree with them.—After a discussion lasting two hours and a half, the resolution for the reconstruction of the company was carried by a large majority.—Mr. Lewis demanded a poll, the date for the declaration of which was fixed for the 10th inst. at noon.

THE STRUGGLE FOR EASTERN AFRICA.

Emin Pacha Joins the Germans. A Reuter's telegram from Zanzibar states that Emin Pacha has joined the German service in East Africa, and will start on the 20th inst. with a caravan for Victoria Nyanza. Another correspondent sends telegrams from Bagamoyo and Zanzibar which confirm this intelligence. The telegram from Bagamoyo says:

Emin Pacha, who has long been dallying between the English and German administrations, has now finally accepted the proposals of Major Wissmann. He has definitely entered the German service on a salary of £1,000 a year, abandoning all thoughts of returning to Europe. Accompanied by several German officers and 200 Soudanese soldiers, he will leave Bagamoyo with a large caravan for the interior about the middle of April. The porters engaged say they are to receive extra wages to march with the greatest speed to Lake Victoria Nyanza. The evident intention is to make treaties for Germany in all directions. The message from Zanzibar states that the news of Emin Pacha's decision is received very unfavourably there, and adds:—His present position is almost unparalleled in history. His rescue, which was effected at so great an expenditure of time and money, is absolutely resultless regarding himself. Within four months of reaching the coast he returns as a paid subordinate officer of a German company to the very latitude where he so recently lived as the heroic governor of an immense province amid world-wide admiration.

ACTING AGAINST HIS RESCUERS.

His present employers are active, jealous rivals of the English, who organised his rescue, and his present engagement compels him to act prejudicially to their interests if he fulfills his duty towards the Germans. It is difficult to believe that Emin Pacha's choice is altogether spontaneous. Much is probably due to his accident at Bagamoyo, much to ill-health and his known indecision of character as opposed to the vigour and determination of his present employer. The caravan is leaving at the worst season of the year, and it is evidently intended to anticipate, if possible, the English plans. Its success, however, is very doubtful. The Zanzibar shops have been ransacked to supply presents for the new German subjects to be enrolled by Emin. The Germans are everywhere displaying the utmost activity.

ROBBERIES FROM THE POST OFFICE.

Ernest Bridger, a porter attached to the foreign branch of the General Post Office, was charged at the Bow-street Police Court with stealing letters containing postal orders to the value of £23 14s.—Mr. Arnould, from the solicitors' department of the Post Office, prosecuted, and said that owing to the number of complaints made of the loss of letters containing postal orders addressed to the continent, more particularly to betting agencies in Boulogne, inquiries were made by Mr. Woodward. It was ascertained that stolen orders had been cashed at the Clapham Park-road Post Office, with the result that the prisoner was interviewed and accused. He admitted having stolen the orders, and upon his house being searched eleven orders were found. He admitted having stolen forty-five postal orders.—He was remanded for further inquiries to be made.

THE BRIGHTON ELOPEMENT.

Louisa Peters, a smart-looking young woman, and Henry Willington, a well-dressed man, formerly a guard on the District Railway, were finally examined, before Mr. D'Eyncourt, at the Westminster Police Court, charged with being together concerned in stealing a bank note for £250, belonging to Arthur John Peters, the husband of the female prisoner, from Gunter Grove, Cheltenham, where the parties lived.—The case for the prosecution was concluded at the last hearing, the evidence showing that the wife went off to Brighton, where she was joined by Willington. They stayed together at the Old Ship Hotel. Mr. Taylor addressed the court for the prisoners, urging that the wife did not come under the section of the Act empowering a prosecution by the husband, because when she got the money, some eight days before her departure, she had no intention of leaving him. He asked the magistrate to ignore the evidence of a woman named Seymour, that it was a pre-arranged affair on the ground of this woman's evident bias and her admitted improper relationship with the prosecutor, for whom no one could have sympathy.—Mr. D'Eyncourt said if the money was given to the woman by her husband, he could not think it was presented to her to spend with another man. She would only have the least sympathy with any one of the parties mixed up in this discreditable case.—Mr. Taylor, in that opinion, sir, I quite coincide, but there is the legal question of the wife's liability.—Mr. D'Yken court said he should dismiss the prisoner for trial to the Central Criminal Court, the prosecutor, aware of his own discredit able conduct, wishing to do. The same bail would be taken.

THE NARROW ESCAPE OF THE CITY OF PARIS.

The City of Paris, whose safety we reported last week, had, it appears, a very narrow escape from foundering. The vessel has her starboard engine shattered, and both starboard and port engine-rooms filled with about two thousand tons of water, the port engine being, as a consequence, quite useless, and the steamer thus totally disabled. From the report sent on shore by Captain Watkins, her commander, and from statements made by a saloon passenger who disembarked at Queenstown, it appears that all went well until the evening of the 25th ult., when, at about 5.30 p.m., the starboard engine suddenly collapsed, and the low pressure cylinder was smashed to pieces, breaking the injection engine and water pipe connections, and bursting in the iron bulkhead dividing the port and starboard engines. The broken metal flew in all directions, and it is stated that portions of the machinery broke through the double bottom of the steamer, making a hole through which water rushed into the engine-rooms. These immediately filled, compelling engineers and firemen to rush on deck for safety. Terrible consequences, it is said, might possibly have ensued but for the bravery of the second engineer, who, at great peril, managed to shut off steam, and thus saved the machinery from total demolition. The steamer Aldersgate, from Galveston, bore in sight, and offered to take the liner in tow. The offer was accepted, but the Aldersgate, being a small steamer, was unable to proceed more than four or five knots per hour. On March 29th the American liner Ohio bore down on the City of Paris, and stood by her. Meanwhile the Fastnet had been reached, and two tugs from Queenstown took charge of the disabled steamer and towed her into the harbour. The passengers passed round, expressing gratitude to the divine Providence which had saved them from a terrible fate, and thanking the captain, officers, and crew for their admirable conduct. They subscribed £200 in aid of the hospitals in London and New York for the support of disabled seamen. After landing, the passengers were conveyed by special trains to Dublin, and then sailed for Holyhead and Liverpool. A number of passengers were conveyed from those places to their destinations by special train.

INDIGNANT BATTERSEA RATEPAYERS.

A meeting of Battersea ratepayers has been held to protest against the high-handed dealing of the vestry towards their employés. From the remarks of various speakers, vestrymen and others, it appeared that the vestry had instituted police court proceedings against a dusting inspector on a charge of embezzlement, had dismissed four dustmen for suspected collusion with the said inspector, and had also dismissed another inspector and subsequently managed. He said his object was to make the vendors and those members of the Isaacs family who had and share disagree with them.—After a discussion lasting two hours and a half, the resolution for the reconstruction of the company was carried by a large majority.—Mr. Lewis demanded a poll, the date for the declaration of which was fixed for the 10th inst. at noon.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Though every care will be taken to insure the accuracy of the editor cannot accept responsibility for any errors. Questions relating to the following will be answered by the editor by Wednesday morning of last. Those subsequent to receipt will be answered the following week. Related MS., not accompanied by envelope or wrapping, will not be returned. Whichever payment is made, for correspondence they must be so marked, the amount being either enclosed or left to the editor to do. All questions should be headed "Legal," "Medical," "Miscellaneous," or otherwise, in accordance with their specific characters in order to facilitate classification.

LEGAL.

E. DAYTON.—The service is sufficient. You had better address to your employer for instructions. Your letter arrived too late for a reply last week.

J. K.—The landlord could follow the goods within a month, as it would be a fraudulent removal.

W. DONALD.—It goes to the heir-at-law, who appears to be your cousin.

A. DEIVED OVER.—You can trade under any name, but a distinct name will only be obtainable if you could prove adultery.

X. Y. Z.—It stands in the same position that A did, and can adopt the same means of recovery.

C. W. LOW.—You have no case for damages, having taken your charge of your own option.

C. E. A.—They can count you.

C. H. B.—The Indian rubber plant may be re-potted now. Do not overpot. Loam and leaf mould, with some sharp sand to keep the soil open, will be suitable.

J. S.—No. 1 are vegetable marrow, No. 2 a little sulphate of ammonia in water once or twice. Keep the plants in a warm place.

DR. SCOTT'S
BILIOUS and
LIVER
PILLS.

should be sown with tin. Bread and milk and nuts answer well.

P. W. L.—It is very difficult to prevent. The best way would be to exclude the birds which have acquired the evil into the premises in the absence of the occupant.

EYESIGHT PRESERVED. ONE SHILLING.

M. E. ATTCHISON. Consulting Optician will carry

Mr. E. Attchison's spectacles and a pair of spectacles or spectacles.

The Family Doctor, Oct. 10th, 1889, says:—"Mr. Attchison is thoroughly qualified as an Optician; his credentials are of the highest order."

THE SIGHT TESTED BY POST.

Mr. ATTCHISON, 47, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

is called to the wonderful efficacy of

THE GUTHER'S OINTMENT. INDOLIC OINTMENT.

Indol, resin, aloes, &c.

INDOLIC OINTMENT.

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

The execution of William Chadwick for the Atherton murder has been fixed for April 13th. A baby which weighed but 200z. has been born in Minneapolis. Mackerel have appeared in immense shoals off the Kerry coast.

Major Thomas Howard is reasonably spoken as the oldest shipbuilder in America, since he is in the 102nd year of his age.

A third lifeboat is to be placed at Holyhead owing to the recent terrible disaster to the Tenby Castle at Port Ruffyd.

Several important banks have failed in Italy, where an aggravation of the economic crisis is feared.

An anonymous letter writer in Joliet, Illinois, has hounded a young girl to her death, driving her at last to the commission of suicide.

Mr. Morton has given notice that he will bring in a bill to enable passengers by railways or steamers to make use of return tickets at any time within twelve months from the date of issue.

The murderer Kemmler (says a New York telegram), has been finally sentenced to be executed by electricity at Auburn Prison during the week beginning April 28th.

In Utica, New York, tradesmen of all sorts not only sell their delinquent accounts at a public sale, but advertise them at full length in the papers.

Well may the rabbit pest of New South Wales sink as a national calamity. The only partially successful efforts made for its suppression by the Government have cost the Treasury nearly £1,000,000.

A "ladies' steeplechase" is being talked of at Melton Mowbray. The date is not yet fixed, but the majority of the fair equestrians will, it is understood, ride their own horses. There are already about half a dozen entries.

The fine art exhibition in Southwark is to be opened before Whitson's at the Morley Memorial College, Blackfriars-road. It is hoped the inaugural ceremony may be performed by the patroness, Princess Christian.

The convicts at the State Prison at Trenton, New Jersey, have set fire to the buildings and made a desperate attempt at escape. The fire, however, was extinguished by the officials and the revolt subdued.

An unusual demonstration has been made against the Intoxicating Liquors (Ireland) Bill, which stands for second reading on the 23rd of April. No fewer than thirty-three members, of whom five are English, have put down hostile notices to the bill.

An epidemic of what is commonly known as "black diphtheria" has been raging for upwards of a fortnight around Wilkes-Barre (Pa.), and is now becoming alarming. It is principally confined to Luzerne county. The mortality among the children is especially large.

Benjamin Grewell was lynched at Robinson Station, Kentucky, by a mob of about twenty persons. Two years ago Grewell defrauded the farmers in the locality by buying stock and paying for it with bogus cheques. He then fled to the mountains, but ventured back, vainly thinking that his evil deeds had been forgotten.

Hop Yan Lee, a Chinese laundryman, has been taken to the municipal hospital at Philadelphia suffering from leprosy. It is feared that several other cases exist, as many people have been exposed to the chances of catching it from the fact that Hop Yan Lee has been doing his daily quantity of washing, despite his loathsome condition.

During some military aeronautical experiments which were carried out at Posen, a balloon which had commenced an ascent away so much that the occupants, a captain, a lieutenant, and a private were precipitated to the earth. The private was killed, the captain broke both his legs, and the lieutenant was severely bruised.

The committee of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings having heard with the deepest regret of the mutilation of some of the ancient monuments of Egyptian art, has expressed the hope that the Egyptian Government will take immediate steps to prevent the recurrence of such an irreparable misfortune.

The number of paupers in England and Wales continues to increase throughout January last, till at the end of that month there were 730,241, of whom 194,235 received indoor, and 535,171 outdoor relief. If the estimated population be taken at 23,015,613, this means that 25.2 in every 1,000 were in receipt of relief.

The Dutch police seem to think the body of a man who committed suicide last week by blowing out his brains on the bank of the Meuse, near Maestricht, is that of Eynaud. There was found on him a pocket-book containing a large number of newspaper cuttings concerning the Gould murder. The initials in the suicide's hat and on his pocket handkerchief were those of Eynaud.

The actors and singers of the Polish National Theatre at Lemberg have organised a strike against a reduction of their salaries. The audience was already in the theatre when the strike broke out. They invite their colleagues throughout Galicia to join with them against the tyranny, as they style it, of directors and managers.

A gentleman called upon the secretary of the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House, and, inquiring if the two collector funds were still open, handed him £200 in bank notes for the Llauerch Relief Fund and £300 for the Moria Fund. He stipulated that his donations should simply be entered as from "A. O. A." and be left without disclosing his identity.

The Tribunal of Neuchâtel has just delivered a judgment inflicting heavy penalties upon M. Allard, an advocate, who had accidentally caused the death of Councillor Brugmann while they were out shooting. M. Allard is condemned to pay a fine of £1,000, and in default to undergo three months' imprisonment. He is also to pay £10,000 damages to the widow, and £5,000 to each of the deceased's four children.

A servant, named Sarah Ann Thomas, has been charged on remand, at Haverfordwest, with attempting to poison her master, a veterinary surgeon, by administering strichnine. The police superintendent applied for a remand, and indicated that a second charge, which, it is said, is one of attempting to poison her master's children, would be preferred. The prisoner was further remanded.

Lord Wolseley acted as one of the judges in a "speech competition" at the Jewish Working Men's Club, Alzate. Speaking in reply to a vote of thanks, he said that in England there were 800,000 men who were now, or who had been, in the Volunteer ranks, and this was not only a great national but a great individual advantage. The physical training secured was of immense importance, and it was a mistake to suppose that all a nation wanted was head crumming.

At Paris a man named Menier has been sentenced to three months' imprisonment and another named Canier to three years, for defrauding Mr. Harvey, a well-known English shopkeeper in the boulevards des Capucines, of "the insurance trick." Canier offered to invest £10,000, as a sleeping partner in Mr. Harvey's business. He then made a condition that he should insure his life for that amount as security, and with that object introduced him to an insurance company, afterwards pocketing the commission of £4,000, and disappearing.

The coroner has adjourned the further investigation into the cause of the accident at the steam trial of the new third-class cruiser Barracouta until April 10th, owing to the illness of one of the principal witnesses. The coroner has requested the engineer-in-chief of the Navy to supply the court with information as to the nature of the fresh water supplied at Sheerness and Chatham Dockyards, as it is said that contractors have often failed for their ships to be tested at Fos-

mouth on account of the unsuitable water obtained at the Medway ports.

President Garrison rarely smokes more than three cigars a day, one after each meal.

Mr. Henry Irving and a party of friends have during the past week visited Shanklin, Isle of Wight.

Searle, the sculler, was not worth so much as had been imagined. His estate is now valued at £1,200.

The new governor of Fentonville is Mr. J. B. Manning, who for many years was governor of Chester Castle Gaol.

A severe cyclone has passed over portions of Queensland. In one town only four houses have been left standing.

The annexed is from a San Francisco paper:—

"An Indian, 110 years old, known as Juan, died at San Diego recently, leaving a widow 102 years old."

Monday was the last day for the reception by public offices of light-weighted gold coined before the Victorian reign. It is understood that the amount tendered exceeds £1,750,000.

Only the other day a music-seller in Sheffield, who is in a position to know, assured Sir Charles Hall that there are in that town alone between 500 and 600 artisans who play the violin.

A number of beautiful gifts have lately been made to Truro Cathedral. In memory of Lady Howe a new stained glass window has been erected on the north side of the retrochoir.

The Crown Prince of Sweden became interested in two humble lads, children of a poor Tyrolean carpenter, during his stay at Meran, and now have them installed in the royal household at Stockholm.

Frank Grotner, of Alleghany, Pa., was terribly incensed against his step-child, a little child of eight. The monster caught hold of it by the legs, and dashed out its brains on the flag stones.

Mrs. Sullivan, of Pleasant-place, Bermondsey, has been burned to death through the accidental explosion of a paraffin lamp. Her two children, whom she was endeavouring to rescue when her night-dress took fire, were seriously injured.

By the submission of the notorious brigand chief, Nako Karanastasis, and three followers, on the 28th ult., to the Moutses of Serbia, the whole of South-Western Macedonia is now free from brigandage.

For the grave of Mrs. Ann D. Carter, in a churchyard at Thorburn, Delaware county, her husband has made in Media a tombstone, from which this inscription is quoted:—"Some have children and some have none, here lies the mother of twenty-one."

Mrs. Simpson, wife of a Sheffield hairdresser, was riding in a four-horse omnibus which bolted down Broom Hill and came into collision with a cab. Unfortunately she jumped out. Her head coming into collision with the kerbstone, the unfortunate lady was killed.

The memorial fund for the benefit of the family of the late Chief-constable Williamson, of Scotland Yard, amounts to £880. It has been decided to keep the fund open until May 1st, in the hope that it may by that time have reached at least £1,000.

A well-known Preston coal merchant, named James Turner, was charged at Preston with forging an acceptance for £200, and with having forged the name of R. J. and S. Reay as endorsers of the bills. The prisoner was remanded, bail being refused.

About a fortnight ago two young countesses, Elise and Gabrielle Ziby, aged 18 and 16, were bitten by their little lapdog at Abbazia. Subsequently the dog showed signs of madness and had to be destroyed. This caused the family so much anxiety that the countesses were sent to Paris to M. Pasteur, who is treating them, and who hoped to send them home again shortly.

At a meeting held at the National Liberal Club, after a eulogy of the late Mr. Firth, by Lord Rosebery, it was resolved to commemorate his services to London by placing a marble bust of him in the chamber of the County Council, and, if possible, to endow a ward or bed in the Brompton Hospital in his name.

It was stated at the annual meeting of the Merchant Seamen's Orphan Asylum that owing to the recent improvement in shipping and commerce, there had been an increase in the ordinary sources of revenue. At the same time, the sum derived from legacies had fallen far short of the amount received in the previous year.

Another respite has been granted to the condemned man O'Brien, who was to have been hanged at Limerick for poisoning his father-in-law. Five respite days have taken place since the date originally fixed for O'Brien's execution, the 13th of January; and this last respite, to May 1st, is to enable the Court of Appeal to review the Queen's Bench decision upholding the prisoner's conviction.

From the 26th April to the 10th May there will be at the Agricultural Hall an exhibition devoted to the interests of health and temperance. This will be divided in two sections; the first will include a collection of temperance beverages of all kinds, and the machinery for making them; the second section will comprise all articles calculated to promote health and minister to domestic comfort.

The Princess Beatrice is well known to be an accomplished pianist, but she had not hitherto put her powers to so severe a test as on Friday, last week, when at a private concert given before Queen by the Windsor and Eton Amateur Orchestral Society, her royal highness played the first movement of Beethoven's Concerto in E flat.

One of the amusing incidents of Monday night's Parliament was the mistake made by Mr. Chaplin in the division on Mr. Pickersill's amendment to vote for royal parks and pleasure gardens. The right hon. gentleman went into the wrong lobby, and recorded his vote against the Government. The Opposition overwhelmed the Minister of Agriculture with ironical cheers.

Mr. John Dashwood, master of the Edensor bridge-harriers, was fined £3 at the Godstone Police Court for assaulting William Wicking, farmer, and Aubrey Eaton, his nephew. The Edensor bridge-harriers were out hunting and went after Mr. Wicking's farm. He, having previously warned them off, went to the gate to stop Mr. Dashwood, who, it was stated, thrashed him so severely with a whip that he lost a quantity of blood.

A preposterous story was spread at Kangra the other day, that a jogi or Hindoo saint had cut out his tongue, and that the goddess to whom he was consecrated had replaced it. Hindoo flocked in crowds to see the wonder. The fact, as declared by the civil surgeon, is that three-sixteenths of an inch was cut off the tip of the tongue, and that, when the wound healed, the jogi was able to speak without difficulty.

The Revenue returns which were recently issued show that the receipts for the financial year, which ended on the 31st ult., amounted to £44,489,882, of which £29,304,316 was paid into the Exchequer, and £5,185,200 was transferred to the local taxation account. The total produce for the previous year was £49,872,812, of which £21,490,000 was transferred. During the past twelve months there has been, apart from these transfers, a net increase of £231,500.

The text of the English speech delivered by Sir John Gorst at the closing of the Labour Conference has been officially published in Berlin. They would all, he remarked, feel satisfied having taken part in the commencement of a generous work for the advancement of the labouring classes of all nations, and it was to be hoped that the Governments of the States represented there would afterwards consider the wishes of the conference.

The Postmaster-general has received a deputation representing the telegraphists previously employed by the Submarine Telegraph Company, and taken over by the Government a year ago. These men complain that, although the Post Office had shared the profits of the Submarine Company since 1870, their years of service were regarded by the Post Office as of no account. Mr. Raikes, having listened to statements in support of the memorial submitted, intimated that the

subject was under the consideration of the department.

There were 2,142 births and 1,571 deaths in London last week.

Different forms of violence were responsible for sixty-one deaths in London last week.

The Rev. Sir Brook Bridges, Bart., has died at Goodenstone, Wingham, at the age of 88 years.

Diseases of the respiratory organs caused 375 deaths in the metropolis last week.

Hampstead Heath and Victoria Park are to have music on Sundays during the summer.

A lad, who was bathing in the Murray River, Queensland, was swallowed by an alligator.

The governors of the London Hospital have authorised the expenditure of £7,000 on sanitary improvements.

An effort is being made by the fashion dictators to introduce spring cloaks and mantles of colour.

There were in London last week 45 fatal cases of measles, 10 of scarlet fever, 30 of diphtheria, 101 of whooping-cough, 7 of enteric fever, and 13 of diarrhoea and dysentery.

Again the deaths of infants from suffocation—"overlaying"—have increased. Last week there were fifteen little victims of less than 12 months old.

An explosion of blasting cartridges in a coal mine at Cobourg, Alabama, has caused the deaths of four convict labourers and severe injuries to eight others.

A report is current in Berlin that the Princess Victoria, the Emperor's second sister, who was born on the 12th of April, 1862, will shortly be betrothed to Prince Albert of Saxe-Altenburg.

Lord Randolph Churchill has obtained the first place on Tuesday, the 29th April, for the notice which he has given to call attention to the licensing laws, and to move for leave to bring in a bill to amend the same.

Replying to a correspondent in an East Anglian constituency, Lord Randolph Churchill has expressed his regret that he is unable to accept an invitation to address a meeting of Gladstonites on the Parnell Commission.

Owens College has received from the executors of the late Mr. Daniel Proctor the announcement of their willingness to contribute £6,000 for the foundation of a Pathological Professorship to be associated with Mr. Proctor's name.

Germany has accepted the invitation of the Foreign Office to the International Fishery Conference, to be held here in June. It will be chiefly engaged with deep-sea fishing, especially the measures necessary to prevent the wholesale catching of immature fish.

The following is the resolution which Lord Compton will move on Tuesday, the 13th, with reference to the telegraphists: "That, in the opinion of this House, the present position of telegraphists in London and elsewhere is unsatisfactory, and their just grievances require redress."

The Chamber of Agriculture has expressed its regret that in the new Contagious Diseases Bill it was not made compulsory to slaughter all cattle that had been in contact with animals suffering from pleuro-pneumonia. They also approved certain features of the Tithe Bill, but hoped it might be considerably improved in committees.

A runaway horse dashed through the plate-glass window of Messrs. Woodall's premises in the Caledonian-road, wrecking the shop-front, as well as a trap which it had been drawing. Miss Cooke, a young lady who was dressing the window at the time, was much cut about the face by flying glass.

A second meeting to discuss the grievances of barmaids and girls engaged in restaurants has been held at Miss Morley's house in Grosvenor-street, Mrs. Bevan presiding. Sir Caine's bill was considered, and a number of amendments were recommended for embodiment in the measure.

A woman named Brown was fined £1 by the Dover magistrates for sending indecent postcards to different people in the town, amongst whom were two justices of the peace. The prosecution was taken up at the instance of the Postmaster-general, who, it was stated, was determined to stop the abuse of postcards.

The Czar and Czarina went the other day to the military prison in St. Petersburg, and talked to the hundred and nineteen soldiers therein confined as to the causes of their imprisonment. His Majesty ordered sixty of them to be liberated, and the period of detention of the others to be reduced.

A housebreaker was captured in Paris on Monday night, through having left outside the door which he forced his tools and a crowbar. The occupant of the premises, on returning home, found the tools, and summoned the police who, after a long search, found the man concealed under a pile of paper. He pleaded that he was endeavouring to obtain some money for necessities while he served in the Army.

Men, for the ladies!—Little jackets and caps of heliotrope cloth are in favour, and are usually trimmed with black; also black with a suggestion of a gold brocade pattern; or, again, a brocade of shades of grey. Black velvet is much in vogue.

The German Emperor has issued an order that the first two rows in the gallery of the Hof Kirche shall henceforth be reserved for soldiers, as he does not like to be gazed at by sightseers while attending divine service.

No one in Bloomfield, a Nebraska town, had suspected that John Stratton held Butcher Lewis in eminence. However, he, without a word of explanation, shot him dead. Half an hour later an appeal to her lately to return to him, but she refused.

A breach of promise suit had to be postponed in Columbia, South Carolina, last week, as the defendant was absent on a bridal tour and the plaintiff was helping him to enjoy it. In fact, they had got married since the suit was filed.

A weaver of Aschersleben, Germany, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment, 2,000 marks fine, and five years' police surveillance for charging an Army officer 180 per cent. interest on money lent.

English tourists in Canada beware! There is a probability of a bill becoming law which declares that, "whoever shall on the Lord's Day go out fishing, or shall take, kill, or destroy any fish, or use any gun, fishing-rod, net, or other appliance for that purpose, shall be deemed to be guilty of a misdemeanour."

The body of a miller, named Thomas Dawkins, aged 85 years, of Nuneaton, was found by his niece in a stream in the Watling-street-road. The

JACK ALLROUND.

"Can I make any sort of fuel out of a great heap of coal dust that has been accumulating for years in my cellar? I don't mind dirty work, but am too poor to allow waste. Please help me," writes "Honest John," W. N. C. also writes, "We have unfortunately got in our cellar a large accumulation of coal dust; could you advise me how to make it into bricks to burn as coal?" My correspondents have not, of course, either vessels for boiling, or machinery for pressing the blocks, but I have known capital fire balls made out of coal dust, the only machinery required being an ordinary shovel and a sort of short-handled, broad, square wooden bat, to beat the moistened fragments together into a solid mass. The binding of the dust was accomplished with a mixture of liquid coal tar and water. The dust being gathered into a heap, a hollow was scooped out in the middle; into this the tar and water were poured, and add to it a liberal dash of ammonia; then introduce the cashmere, and wash it with as little rubbing as possible, to effect the cleansing necessary; rinse it out in well hosed water of the same temperature, and iron before it is quite dry.

TURF, FIELD, AND RIVER.

By LARRY LYNX.

Often in years gone by has the Lincolnshire Handicap furnished backers with a clue in their attempts to find the winner of the City and Suburban, notably in the March of 1885, when Bendigo, with 5st. 5lb. in the saddle and Jem Snowdon up, raced home first in the big handicap on the Carholme three-quarters of a length in front of Bird of Freedom, who beat McMahon four lengths for second place, the latter horse carrying 6lb. extra in order to secure the services of the now warned-off Charles Wood. Gallantoff "Ben" was not in the City and Suburban field of that year, but Bird of Freedom and McMahon were, and "the Bird" met the older horses on 9lb. worse terms. So divided were the opinions of good judges respecting the Lincoln form of Bird of Freedom and McMahon, that the pair started joint favourites at 100 to 30 each. The last justified the result and the Lincoln running, as after a desperate finish, in which William horsemanship was shown by F. Barrett on "The Bird" and Sam Loates on "Mac," the former secured the plunger's feelings when Acheson did his champion by a head in the last stride.

Those who journeyed down to Nottingham on the opening day of that fixture were fortunate indeed in the matter of weather. I like the old-fashioned meeting held on the outskirts of Sherwood Forest, once the haunt of Robin Hood and his merry men, some of whose names are still kept green in our memories by the titles of several of the races on the Nottingham card. For instance, I may quote the Friar Tuck Stakes, in which Shamrock II, followed up his Queen's Plate victory at Lincoln and fulfilled my prediction by a very easy win and the Little John Plate, in which Young Horatio supplemented his Tathwell Stakes triumph with another almost as easily gained, thus landing the odds bet on him, and illustrating the correctness of my advocacy of his claims. In the Nottingham Spring Handicap I was once more successful in spotting the winner by means of Jezreel, whom I had coupled with Appenzell to supply the victor of this event. Appenzell, unfortunately for his backers—for he was a hot favourite—broke down when in the line for home, and Jezreel going on, won cleverly from old Tommy Tittlemouse, and that arrant rogue, Woodlark, so bringing off an 8 to 1 chance. Forbiden Fruit secured another pair of brackets in the Elvaston Plate, Sir Hamilton accounted for the Annesley Hunters' Flat Race, and other races tell of much that is interesting.

One or two other events have occurred to mark the cross-country runner's calendar for 1889-90 as something out of the common. After holding their open novice steeplechases for several successive years, the Spartan Harriers have allowed that important fixture to slide out of their fixture list; for the first time on record there has been a cross-country championship of Essex; and, also for the first time, the senior and junior championships of the Southern Counties were simultaneously run on Croydon racecourse. Taken altogether, it has been, indeed, a remarkable season, but nothing more remarkable has taken place than the extraordinary success for the national championship at Birmingham, where Salford won with ninety-three, Worcester were second with ninety-six, and Birchfield third with ninety-six—only three points covering the first three clubs.

THE CHARGE OF ILL-TREATING AN ACHOBAT.

At Croydon, on the first day, The Vicar, a 7 to 1 chance, bowled over a good favourite in Sturton

Stephen Ethardo, of Blenheim Grove, Peckham, appeared to an adjourned summons taken out under the new Act by the National Society for the Protection of Children, charging him with causing a girl under the age of 16 years to be ill-treated.

Mr. Hutton, barrister, prosecuted; and Mr. Bernard Abrahams, solicitor, defended.

Mr. Hutton stated that since the adjournment of the father of the child, having seen the case in the newspapers, had communicated with the society, and sent them the agreement which, in the year 1887, he made with Ethardo.

According to that document the girl was to be taught music, dancing, and deportment as a training for the theatrical profession, nothing being mentioned about gymnastics.

Dr. B. Ardeckne Duncan, of Wimpole-street, said that, in company with Dr. Tweed and Dr. Brooks, the defendant's medical man, he had made an examination of the child.

He found very severe disease of the mitral valve of the heart, with a loud murmur, indicating that the valve was imperfect, and consequently in a condition dangerous to life.

On March 14th he witnessed the performance of the child at the Alhambra. She stood on a pedestal with her head bent back-wards between her legs, and then, putting her hands on the pedestal, raised her legs and supported herself by her arms. She also turned several "flip-flops" on the ground, and climbing on the shoulders of the second girl, who was on those of the eldest, slowly bent back-wards until her head rested on that of the girl just beneath her, and then raised her legs and balanced without any support from her hands. He could not see that she was in any way afraid, but thought from her appearance that she rather enjoyed it. He also saw her head back-wards and walk about the stage on her hands and feet. At the opening of the performance she with the other girls jumped from a pedestal about five feet high. Although the performance seemed to give her no suffering, its continuance would undoubtedly be dangerous to her health, on account of the condition of her heart.

Cross-examined: It was unlikely that any body not a doctor could find out that the child was suffering from heart disease. In conversation with her he elicited that she was kindly treated by every one, especially by her "uncle" by whom she indicated the defendant. She would probably not suffer pain during the performance, but would feel some distress.

Re-examined: In his opinion Beatrice was a delicate child, and her heart disease certainly could not lessen so long as she continued the performance.

Frank Jones, a plumber and painter, of Gothenburg Buildings, Hoxton, Birmingham, said the child Beatrice was his daughter, and that her proper name was Lena Beatrice Jones. He produced her certificate of birth, showing that she was ten years old last August.

Cross-examined: It was unlikely that any body not a doctor could find out that the child was suffering from heart disease.

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BARMAID, WIFE, AND SUICIDE.
A. Husband Censured.

Dr. G. Denford Thomas, coroner for Central London, held an inquest at Islington Coroner's Court touching the death of Rosa Garrod, aged 23, the wife of Percy William Garrod, lately lodger at 8, Calabria-road, Highbury.—According to the husband of the deceased he had been a banker and distiller's clerk, but last he carried on the business of a bootmaker at 50, Pentonville-road. He married the deceased, formerly a barmaid in Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, ten weeks ago. He had known her six years previously. After staying two weeks at Hastings, they went to lodges at 8, Calabria-road, Highbury, and the witness, failing to find employment, was left, practically without means. His wife was very depressed in consequence of their poverty, "and for other reasons." On Tuesday, March 29th, she met him outside the Angel Hotel, Islington, and, being angry, struck him. The following evening he went to his mother's to get some pecuniary assistance, and he remained there all night. His wife did not know of his intention to stay away from home. He did not arrive at their lodgings until half-past four on the Thursday afternoon. He then told her that as she had struck him three or four times, and, lastly, in the open street, and, seeing they could not agree, she had better go to her parents until he was able to make some provision for her, so that they could live apart. She wept, and so he did not press the proposal. His mother having lent him £2 10s., he was speaking to his landlady with respect to her bill, when his wife suddenly left them, entered her bed-room, and locked the door. As she had previously threatened to commit suicide, and had once before her marriage—so she said—taken laudanum with that intent he became alarmed. He gained access to the room, where he discovered her lying insensible on the floor behind the door, and smelt a strong effluvia of carbolic acid. Dr. H. J. Cribb, of 8, Highbury-place, was at once fetched, but the deceased expired within a quarter of an hour from the time he had no doubt, the effects of carbolic acid poisoning.—Mrs. Matthews, the landlady, deposed that on the 29th ult. Mrs. Garrod informed her that on the preceding day she struck her husband, and she seemed sorry she did so.—Louise Benwell, barmaid at the Dolphin Tavern, 230, Oxford-street, sister of the deceased, stated that she was not present at the latter's wedding, but had seen her since. Rosa visited her at two o'clock on the afternoon of the 27th March, and told her that she had quarrelled with her husband, who had left her.

Without Food or Money.

The witness gave her 3s. She informed witness that she had struck her husband. She was excited, and grieved at being neglected and left without money or food. The preceding week she was similarly left.—Inspector H. Ashwell, N Division, produced a bottle of carbolic acid, duly labelled, which he found in the deceased's trunk, and also a small glass which had contained the poison, and which he discovered upon a chest of drawers. In her dress pocket was a purse containing 2s. 6d. in silver and 3d. in bronze, and a letter, dated simply, "Thursday evening," addressed to her sister. The letter, which Miss Benwell identified as in the deceased's handwriting, ran as follows:—"My dear sister,—Of course you will be surprised to hear that I have put an end to my miserable existence. I have done this, as Percy has treated me very badly lately. I cannot stand it any longer. He left me every day nearly penniless. He comes home nearly drunk every evening. He has only given me 2s. 6d. this week. When I came to see you on Tuesday I had to walk, as I had no money to pay my bus fare. His wife stopped him, and the bystanders separated the combatants, who were both placed under arrest. JEALOUSY AND MURDER.

A man named Gaspard rushed into the Levallois-Perret Police Station, Paris, the other evening, and asked to be arrested for the murder of his wife. The commissary remembered the visitor as a shoemaker whom he had previously had occasion to remonstrate with on his conduct towards his wife, and went with him to his residence, where Gaspard's confession was found to be true. Gaspard, who is a cobbler, has been constantly accusing his wife of light conduct, whereas the poor woman was, from all accounts, a model of virtue. A year and a half ago, in a fit of jealousy, he attempted to kill Madame Gaspard, by shooting at her with a revolver, but the bullet went wide of its intended mark. Gaspard was brought before a judge of instruction, escaped with a warning. His wife forgave him, and for a time they seemed to live together more happily. Gaspard's jealousy, however, soon began to show itself again, and his unfortunate spouse left him with her daughter. In November last she gave way to her husband's accusations and promises, and returned to his abode. On Sunday morning Gaspard called at the police station and obtained an audience of the commissary, to whom he recounted the faults he found with his wife. The commissary gathered from his visitor's words what sort of a man he had to deal with, but promised to send for Madame Gaspard to talk to her like a father. The same evening, however, the man had one of his jealous paroxysms. During dinner he began to abuse his wife for fancied infidelities, and finally worked himself into such a condition of mind that he went into the bed-room for his revolver, and with it shot Madame Gaspard through the heart. Gaspard was taken by the police to his house in the Rue Pocard. The cobbler's neighbours, who were aware of the sad existence he had made his wife lead, and who were highly incensed, gathered outside the house and showed a strong disposition to inflict summary justice upon the criminal. The police had to send for reinforcements, and even then had great difficulty in getting Gaspard safely to the station.

MR. LABOUCHERE'S SUSPENSION. Mr. Edmund Robertson, M.P., has had an interview with Mr. Gladstone respecting the suspension of Mr. Labouchere. The hon. member for Dulwich pointed out that the motion on the subject standing in the name of the rich hon. gentleman, by carefully avoiding allusion to the action of the chairman of committees, evades the point at issue. Mr. Gladstone, in reply, expressed his strong objection to taking a course that might reflect upon the chairman and weaken his authority in the House, and suggested as an alternative that the motion might be abandoned in favour of a simple question to be addressed to Mr. Courtney personally. But this course was not deemed sufficiently effective, a motion will be made by a private member depriving all members of the Upper House alike of exceptional treatment in debate in the Lower House.

AN ACTORS' STRIKE. A new phase in strikes is agitating Lemberg. All the actors and actresses of the National Theatre are out on strike, in consequence of a reduction in their salaries of 20 per cent. The actors are treated as public officials by the Galician Government, in consequence of the theatre being subsidised by the Government, and the Galician Diet has invited them to lay their grievances before the House. Public feeling favours the actors, and strongly condemns the action of the management, which affects the future pensions of the Thespians as well as their present salaries. The actors and actresses have banded together and are about to commence a series of performances at a private theatre.

MI. LIONAIRE AND THIEF. John Owley, aged 70, has been sentenced to prison for five years for burglary, at St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a brother of a former governor of Kentucky. Some years ago he was worth a million of money, but losing his fortune by adverse speculations, he disappeared from his familiar haunts, and was supposed to have gone to Europe. A year ago he reappeared, and was discovered to be at the head of a gang of thieves, composed of John Owley's two pretty daughters, who have been systematically trained in crime, and two men, their supposed husbands.

ACTION AGAINST THE "NEW YORK HERALD."

In the Queen's Bench Division, the case of Whithey and others v. Moignard has been heard. The plaintiffs in this case, it was said, were the proprietors of the Wild America Company, which last year performed at Vienna and other places on the continent. The defendant was the printer and publisher of the London edition of the "New York Herald," and the action was for damages for libel. In the statement of claim it was said that the defendant when he published the alleged libel well knew that it would also be published in the continental editions of that paper. Mr. Justice Lawrence, however, in chambers struck out this statement, and this decision was now appealed against. Mr. H. Reed was for the appellants, and Mr. Banks for the defendant.—The court held that the matter in the paragraph in question could be given in evidence, and that it was proper to be inserted in the statement of claim.—Appeal allowed, with costs.

BABY FARMING AND INFANT INSURANCE.

Shocking Disclosures. A Dalziel telegram from Warsaw states that the woman baby farmer, Styanski, who is believed to have disposed of (according to the number of bodies identified) seventy-five babies during the last few years, has just been sentenced to three years imprisonment. Her baby farm, or rather grave yard, became known to the police a month ago through her setting fire to her cottage containing five little children, in order to obtain the amount of the insurance on her property. At the trial it was proved that not a single child which was entrusted to her care and entered her den ever left the house alive. It was also shown that she made two charges for taking care of children—fifteen pence for allowing the baby to die in a few weeks, and twenty for procuring its death within a day or two. In spite of all the evidence which they have been in the habit of having under the contract system.

EXPENSIVE DRESSING IN PARIS. Some figures to give husbands pause are furnished by writer in the "Temps" regarding the sum spent on dress in Paris in the course of twelve months. In round numbers the nine leading couturiers of the French capital supply annually to the mean value of £25,000,000. The artist whose renown began during the Second Empire and who is still chief princeps in the specialty—toiletries for balls and receptions—send out each year bills of which the total amount is upwards of £6,000,000. Next comes the well-known costumier, who devotes himself particularly to the fashioning of outdoor toilettes, and his annual receipts amount to some four millions. After him come, pares passu, five couturiers who take in add up to ten millions, while the dressmaker who has the clientele of the aristocracy of the Republic makes three millions a year. The ladies' tailor whose specialty is in the cut of his travelling, sporting, and riding costumes is put down as adding two millions to the right side of his ledger as each year flies by.

A CONSTABLE TRUNCHEONED.

At the Thames Police Court, Henry Brown was charged with being drunk and disorderly and assaulting Constable 488 K. and John Griffin and James Murphy, with attempting to rescue Brown from custody.—Constable Lee, 312 K., deposed that shortly after twelve o'clock in the morning he was in Glengall-road, Millwall, when Brown came up to him and said, "I am going to show you a few Yankee tricks." He then made a plangent witness with both fists, knocked him backwards, and knocked his helmet off. Witness closed with him, and took him into custody. Constable 488 K. came to witness's assistance when Brown became very violent, and kicked 488 in the groin. A mob collected and attempted to rescue Brown, who threw witness and the other officer to the ground. 488 called out, "He is choking me." Witness tried to release him but could not, and then struck a blow at Brown's arm with his truncheon. The weapon, however, caught both the prisoner and the other constable on their heads, which were cut open. Griffin and Murphy made several attempts to rescue Brown, and when assistance arrived they were arrested. Brown was drunk and had to be taken to the station on the ambulance. Constable 488 K. was severely injured, and was now on the sick list.—Griffin said he and Murphy saw the last witness beating Brown about the head with his truncheon in a cruel manner. They were arrested because they wished to be witnesses.—Brown observed that he recollects nothing of the matter.—Constable 488 K corroborated Lee's evidence, and Mr. Head fined Brown 20s., or fourteen days, and the other prisoners 10s., or seven days.

FRACAS IN A THEATRE.

A disgraceful scene has occurred at the Deutsche Theatre, the leading house in Berlin. During the first performance of the play of "King Midas" Herr Conrad Alberti, a dramatic critic, h asséché the piece, whereupon Herr Meyer, well-known banker, went up to him and in a loud voice said, "I forbid you to repeat that. You make a practice of hissing all first performances." Herr Alberti replied, "You are a bully." A regular fight ensued, in which fists and canes were used. The disturbance was so great that the play had to be stopped, and the bystanders separated the combatants, who were both placed under arrest. JEALOUSY AND MURDER.

A man named Gaspard rushed into the Levallois-Perret Police Station, Paris, the other evening, and asked to be arrested for the murder of his wife. The commissary remembered the visitor as a shoemaker whom he had previously had occasion to remonstrate with on his conduct towards his wife, and went with him to his residence, where Gaspard's confession was found to be true. Gaspard, who is a cobbler, has been constantly accusing his wife of light conduct, whereas the poor woman was, from all accounts, a model of virtue. A year and a half ago, in a fit of jealousy, he attempted to kill Madame Gaspard, by shooting at her with a revolver, but the bullet went wide of its intended mark. Gaspard was brought before a judge of instruction, escaped with a warning. His wife forgave him, and for a time they seemed to live together more happily. Gaspard's jealousy, however, soon began to show itself again, and his unfortunate spouse left him with her daughter. In November last she gave way to her husband's accusations and promises, and returned to his abode. On Sunday morning Gaspard called at the police station and obtained an audience of the commissary, to whom he recounted the faults he found with his wife. The commissary gathered from his visitor's words what sort of a man he had to deal with, but promised to send for Madame Gaspard to talk to her like a father. The same evening, however, the man had one of his jealous paroxysms. During dinner he began to abuse his wife for fancied infidelities, and finally worked himself into such a condition of mind that he went into the bed-room for his revolver, and with it shot Madame Gaspard through the heart. Gaspard was taken by the police to his house in the Rue Pocard. The cobbler's neighbours, who were aware of the sad existence he had made his wife lead, and who were highly incensed, gathered outside the house and showed a strong disposition to inflict summary justice upon the criminal. The police had to send for reinforcements, and even then had great difficulty in getting Gaspard safely to the station.

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George House, 1, Spring Gardens, Charing Cross, S.W. N.B.—Private house, and not connected with a law office.

MONEY—MONEY—MONEY.

TO £100,000 advanced by a private gentleman to responsible persons at a few hours' notice, on note of hand alone, at reasonable interest; easy repayments; capital and interest paid in 12 months. To start in business, furnish your house, to pay your debts or rent, or pay out an execution. No sending application ever refused.—Apply personally, or write to actual lender, Mr. F. H. B. 10, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C. (close to Broad-street Station).

MONEY LENT PRIVATELY AT A FEW HOURS' NOTICE OR NOTE OF HAND ALONE.

£50 to £2,000, at 5 per cent., to men or females. Distance no object. Also upon furniture, pianos, trade and farm stock (without removal), deeds, reversions, life policies, &c., from one to ten years. Call or write.

NO GUARANTEES REQUIRED.—Call or write.

Mr. J. T. NICHOLSON, 10, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

(Private entrance in New-street, near A. H. Davis).

N.B.—No agent or connexion with Loan Offices.

LOANS WITHOUT SECURITY.

£2000 advanced to Householders or Lodgers, Male and Female, on Note of Hand or Life Policy. Moderate interest. Easy repayments. No public notice. Two or three weeks' time for form to call.

£5000 advanced to Men or Women, Male and Female.

110, Newington Causeway, S.E. (near Elephant and Castle).

BRANCHES: 113, Judd-street, Boston-street, W.C. 27, Trinity-square, Borough, S.E. 27, Westbourne Park... 10, Carlton-street, Harrow-road. 10, Southwark-back-street, S.E. 10, Chapel-street, Newgate-street, S.E. 10, Chapel-street, City-road, E.C. Private offices. No inquiries or connexion with business.—Mr. Brown has over 20,000 loans without security.

LOANS WITH OR WITHOUT SURETIES.

£2000 advanced to Householders or Lodgers, Male and Female, on Note of Hand or Life Policy. Moderate interest. Easy repayments. No public notice. Two or three weeks' time for form to call.

£2000 advanced to Men or Women, Male and Female.

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MONEY LENT PRIVATELY BY THE CHARING CROSS BANK. (Established 1879, 28, BEDFORD-STREET, CHANCERY-LANE, LONDON, W.C.)

£2000 advanced to Men or Women, Male and Female.

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THE ALLEGED GREAT FORGERY OF SPANISH BONDS.

Suicide of a Prisoner. At the Mansion House Police Court, Edward Varrone, alias B. J. Walker, was charged, on remand, before Mr. Alderman Renals, with being concerned with one Justo Martos, who has absconded, in forging and uttering Spanish bonds, whereby various foreign bankers had been defrauded of £23,000. Mr. Avery appeared for the prosecution; Mr. Goldberg, solicitor, for the defence. Mr. Avery said that since the last examination two men had been arrested, one at Marseilles and another at Bologna, the latter of whom was believed to be the actual manufacturer of the forged bonds. Unfortunately, the last-mentioned man had committed suicide, but they hoped to have the other, who was supposed to be Martos's chief clerk, before the court on a future occasion.—Mr. Goldberg said these arrests had been made on the information of the prisoner, who was the unfortunate dupe of others; and he hoped to arrest the whole gang and to establish the prisoner's innocence.—Mr. Bässermann, chief clerk at the Deutsche Bank (London agency), in George Yard, Lombard-street, produced the correspondence between the head office of that bank and Justo Martos in relation to transactions in Spanish bonds. He also produced fifteen of the forged Spanish bonds, which had been sent at different times by Martos to the head office, and various cheques given to Martos in payment of them.—Mr. C. Spicer, clerk to the Marine Insurance Company, proved that on February 17th the prisoner effected an open policy of insurance for £2,000 on various bonds; on February 27th another policy for £2,000 on bonds and notes; and on March 3rd, a third policy for £5,000 on bonds. The bonds had been sent by registered post to various parts of the continent.—Mr. F. G. Manning, manager of the London and South-Western Bank (Stockwell branch), said that on the 19th of November Justo Martos opened an account there with a payment of £250 in cash. He produced the pass-book issued to Martos and some of the paid cheques. One of the latter was for £1,600, dated March 3rd. He (Martos) was in the habit of paying in and withdrawing large sums.—Mr. C. H. Denton, branch cashier at the London and South-Western Bank, Fenchurch-street, said he knew Justo Martos as a customer of the Stockwell branch. He was in the habit of paying in at the head office money to the credit of his account at Stockwell. He produced a certified copy of the account. Martos presented a draft for £4,600 on March 3rd, in payment for which he gave him three £1,000 notes and others of smaller value.—Mr. Thomas James Geddes, cashier at the Union Bank of London in Princes-street, proved that on March 4th one of the £1,000 notes was paid in there by "B. J. Walker," of 42 Old Broad-street, to the credit of the Société Générale of Paris. He did not see by whom the note was paid in. He did not recognise the prisoner at all.—Mr. Goldberg said it was admitted that the prisoner had made this payment and remitted the money to the Société Générale. The letter was copied in the prisoner's letter-book, and there was no communication about it.—Mr. S. W. Kindell, a clerk in the City Bank in Threadneedle-street, said the prisoner, in the name of "B. J. Walker," opened an account there on November 19th. He produced his pass-book, a certified copy of his account, and a list of bank notes paid in by the prisoner. After some further evidence the prisoner was again remanded.

CARD SHARPERS IN TRAINS.

At the Hampstead Police Court, Henry Hunt, 24, describing himself as a general dealer, of Hare-street, Bethnal Green, was charged on remand with being concerned, with three other men in gambling by means of the "three-card trick" in a railway carriage on the Hampstead Junction line of the London and North-Western Railway, between Gospel Oak and Hampstead Heath Stations and in obtaining £100 from Walter J. Stephens, with intent to defraud.—The bench sentenced the accused to three months' imprisonment, with hard labour, and commended Stephens for remaining in the railway carriage with the men till the prisoner was secured—after the train had stopped at several intermediate stations—at Willesden. The bench also requested Detective Allen to express to the railway company their opinion that the station-master at Hampstead was to blame for not taking prompt action to secure all the men when the train was at that station.—Detective Allen said the station-master thought there was only one man, and knew a guard was in the carriage.

FRAUDS ON POOR PEOPLE.

Susannah Barnes, 49, a needwoman, was charged on a warrant, at Westminster Police Court, with obtaining food, lodging, and money from number of different persons in Cheeseman's means of false pretences.—Detective-sergeant Richardson said there were a great number of charges against the prisoner of defrauding working-class people by representing that she was coming into a legacy. She had been going from place to place for three years imposing on the credulity of poor persons, and had obtained comparatively large sums. From one artisan's wife she got £30.—Mary Franchise, a widow, living in Church-street, Chelsea, said that a year ago the prisoner came to lodge with her. She said she had a legacy of £250 coming under the will of a Mrs. Philpott, but she could not get the money until "the dead year was out," and she spoke about her solicitors—a well-known firm. After borrowing and owing witness nearly £50, she made an appointment with her to meet at the lawyer's office. She did not come there, and the solicitors told witness that the whole story as to a legacy was fictitious.—Mr. D'Eyncourt remanded the prisoner in custody.

THE HALF-HOLIDAY OF SHOP ASSISTANTS.

The Weekly Half-holiday Bill brought in by Mr. Blundell Maple provides that every keeper of a shop shall, in each week, grant a half-holiday to every shop assistant who has been in his employ for not less than three months; such half-holiday to commence not later than four p.m. on the day selected, three days' notice being given to the assistant of the day selected. Every keeper of a shop shall keep a register containing the names of his shop assistants, the dates on which they were respectively engaged, and the day in each week in which each one entitled to his half-holiday. Any contravention of the Act would be liable on a summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5. If any person feels aggrieved by a conviction or order made by a court of summary jurisdiction under the Act, he may appeal therefrom to the next practicable Court of Quarter Sessions under the Summary Jurisdiction Acts. The provisions of the Act shall not apply in the case of any shop which is regularly closed on one working-day in each week before four p.m. According to the bill, if passed, the Act would come into force on the 1st January next. At a meeting of the members of the Holborn District Board of Works, Mr. J. E. Wood moved that the members of the Holborn Division be requested to oppose the Shop (Weekly Half-holiday) Bill now before Parliament. He said the proposal of Sir J. Lubbock, if carried out, would mean ruin to poor struggling tradesmen, many who, to pay the rates and taxes and earn a bare existence, had to open their shops at seven and close at midnight.—Mr. S. Jacobs said there was no doubt that the proposed bill of Sir J. Lubbock was repugnant to tradesmen. Mr. Blundell Maple had brought in another bill of the same subject, and, being the better, he proposed as an amendment that Mr. Gainsford Bruce, M.P., be requested to oppose Sir J. Lubbock's bill to support Mr. Blundell Maple's bill. This was unanimously agreed to.—The Leeds and District Off License Holders' Protection Association has passed the following resolution:—"That this meeting, while disapproving of Sir John Lubbock's Bill for closing shops half a day in each week, hereby expresses its hearty sympathy with Mr. Blundell Maple M.P., in his effort to secure a weekly half-day holiday for shop assistants without closing shops."

AN IMPUDENT SWINDLER.

"Well-known in the City."

At the Central Criminal Court, Thomas Lee, 51, dealer, was indicted for obtaining by false pretences from Henry William Summers the sum of £50, with intent to defraud. Mr. Eldridge prosecuted; the prisoner was not represented by counsel.—In opening the case Mr. Eldridge explained that on January 15th the prosecutor, who was looking out for employment, saw the following advertisement in a newspaper:—"Wanted, a competent bookkeeper, for a position of responsibility; cash security essential; good salary and permanent position." The prosecutor entered into correspondence with Lee in reference to that advertisement, and ultimately, in accordance with a request made by the latter, met him at 5, Deptford St. Pancras Market. At that interview the prisoner, by way of showing his bona fides, introduced himself as a Manchester man, and said he was the "only writer of a book upon potatoes," which he thereupon produced, in order that the prosecutor might see that he was dealing with a gentleman, and not with a scamp. He further said that he had bought the business where the conversation was taking place from Mr. Dutton for £200. And that he was in business at Covent Garden. He told the prosecutor that he would require cash security for £50, as he had been previously robbed, whereupon prosecutor offered references, but the prisoner would not hear of this suggestion, remarking, "All I want is the money, and that shall be returned to you as soon as I find you are honest. Your paltry £50 is nothing to me. I am worth £20,000, and my wife has £2,000 a year, and owns the premises where I live at 60, Museum-street." Another appointment was then arranged for February 3rd, at the Manchester Hotel, Aldwgate-street, where a conversation occurred, in which the prisoner indulged in the same strain as on the previous occasion, repeating his assertions in regard to his wealth and his wife's income, and he also stated that his potato business was so profitable that he could afford to pay a good salary. He added, "I have sold my Manchester business for £2,000, and have met Mr. Dutton and given him a cheque for £250, the balance of the £200." Prisoner afterwards said, "I cannot now engage you for the St. Pancras depot, because I have engaged a Mr. Langstaff, who has put £400 into the business, at 5 per cent, but if you pay me £50 I will put you in my office at 7, Bow-street. You can start on Monday." He added that he could not take less than £50, as thousands of pounds would have to pass through the prosecutor's hands. Despite this assurance the only money that ever passed through the prosecutor's hands in his dealings with the accused was the £50 which he subsequently gave him. The prisoner, it appeared, also made vague allusions to a sleeping partner, and the learned counsel suggested that this individual had slept so soundly that no one had ever succeeded in finding him. (A laugh.) Another of the prisoner's assertions was that he had a banking account at the Covent Garden branch of the London and County Bank, but evidence would be given to rebut this, as well as most of the other statements made by the accused. After he had parted with his £50 the prosecutor did not see the prisoner again until he was placed in the dock on that charge. The prosecution further alleged that the business in Bow-street, so far as the prisoner was concerned, was that he had a banking account at the Covent Garden branch of the London and County Bank.—The bench also admitted that the prisoner had made this payment and remitted the money to the Société Générale. The letter was copied in the prisoner's letter-book, and there was no communication about it.—Mr. S. W. Kindell, a clerk in the City Bank in Threadneedle-street, said the prisoner, in the name of "B. J. Walker," opened an account there on November 19th. He produced his pass-book, a certified copy of his account, and a list of bank notes paid in by the prisoner. After some further evidence the prisoner was again remanded.

SUICIDE AT CHARING CROSS RAILWAY STATION. Mr. Troutbeck held an inquiry at the Charing Cross Hospital into the circumstances attending the death of Robert Clarke, aged 45, a coffee-house keeper, of Drury-lane.—William John Timus, of White Hart-street, who had known the man for thirty years, said he recently had some domestic trouble, but had never threatened to destroy himself. He was formerly a ship's steward, and was in the habit of carrying a revolver.—George John Cox, night attendant at Charing Cross Station (District Railway), said that soon after ten o'clock at night Clarke came into the lavatory, and in a few minutes witness heard the sound of two shots. He had not noticed anything peculiar in the man's appearance.—Alick Cummings, station inspector, said he found Clarke lying on the floor dead, a revolver being under his chin. He was at once taken to the hospital.—Mr. Barnham, house surgeon, stated that death was instantaneous. The bullet had entered the root of his mouth and passed into the brain.—A verdict of temporary insanity was recorded.

MR. BAIRD AND THE PELICAN CLUB.

The motion in the action of Baird v. Wells, which was before Mr. Justice Stirling, and in which his lordship declined to grant an injunction restraining the proprietor and secretary of the Pelican Club from interfering with Mr. Baird's use and occupation of the club, was in the court-list of the Appeal Court for hearing on Tuesday, but late in the afternoon Sir Horace Davey, with the consent of the defendants, asked that it might stand over till after the Easter vacation, and the court granted the application.

EXCITING SCENE ON THE THAMES.

A sensational scene was witnessed on the Thames of Wapping, where three men nearly lost their lives by drowning. A waterman was engaged to convey two men across the river in his boat, and during the journey over his two fares began disputing about some financial transaction between them. When nearly in mid-stream the words warfare came to blows, and the two men engaged in a stand-up fight in the boat, the result being that both fell overboard. Neither of them could swim, and both were in imminent danger of being drowned, when the boatman—a man named Collins—sprang to the rescue. He seized one by the hair and swam towards the boat, when the other man seized him by the leg. A terrible struggle now took place in the water. Collins endeavoured to shake off the iron grasp of the man who was thus impeding his efforts to swim. He could not succeed in doing so, however, and the three men, all clinging together, disappeared beneath the surface several times. Other boats had by this time put out to the rescue, and their progress was watched with much excitement, it being doubtful if they could reach the drowning men in time to save them. Eventually two boats reached the spot just in time to rescue the party before the tank for the last time. All three were terribly exhausted, particularly Collins, who never lost his life in efforts to save one of the men. The man who had seized Collins by the leg, was unconscious, but still retained his death-like grip. Artificial respiration was performed on him, but it was nearly an hour before he regained consciousness.

SUICIDE AT CHARING CROSS.

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THE ACTRESS AND HER "TIGHTS."

In the Westminster County Court, Miss Nicholls, an actress, brought an action to recover possession of her boxes, detained by the defendant, a greengrocer and removal contractor. She alternatively claimed £50 as damages.

Plaintiff's case was that up to the end of 1889 she lived in Lambeth Palace-road, with a Mrs. Mott, who

removed, with Mrs. Mott's furniture, by the defendant, and taken to his premises. He had

refused to give them up until £2, alleged to be

owing by Miss Nicholls, was paid. She had been

greatly inconvenienced by these things being

detained, as they contained her "tights" and

"make-up" materials.—Defendant said Mrs. Mott told him not to give up the articles until

the money was paid, but as Miss Nicholls worried

him he sent them to Mrs. Mott, who was now

willing to restore them on payment of the amount.

His honour was of opinion Mrs. Mott was

entitled to keep the boxes until her lien was

satisfied. He gave judgment for the defendant, with costs.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CASE.

At the Croydon County Court, his honour Judge Lushington was engaged for nearly six hours in hearing the case of Dale v. Preece, which was an action to recover the sum of £39 12s. 6d., balance of an account due for board and lodgings and of attendance. Mr. P. Mosley was counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. E. C. Colan appearing for the defendant.—In November, 1888, Mrs. Preece, wife of the defendant, who is a grocer carrying on business in the town, was travelling by a South-Eastern Railway Company's train from East Croydon to Cannon-street, and by some mischance the train ran into the stop buffers at the last-mentioned terminus. Mrs. Preece was one of those who complained of injuries, and she was taken into the Cannon-street Hotel, where she was seen by a City doctor, who advised her to go to a place of quietness. Her husband's place of business being in Surrey-street, a noisy thoroughfare in Croydon, she went to lodge with the plaintiff, Mrs. Dale, agreeing to pay £2 10s. a week for the use of the rooms and attendance, and a further sum of £2 10s. a week for board. This, she said, would be paid by the railway company; but as the company received the accounts weekly by week, so they sent them back and repudiated them. Eventually the sum of £39 12s. 6d. became due to Mrs. Dale, and Mrs. Preece paid her £2 4s on account, leaving a balance of £39 12s. 6d., the amount now sued for.—The defendant now swore, however, that he advanced the £2 4s to Mrs. Dale, to be repaid when the company settled with her. It transpired, however, that Mrs. Preece ultimately entered an action against the South-Eastern Railway Company for £1,500 damages, and that he recovered £250, which was to include the cost of nursing, &c.—After hearing a mass of evidence on both sides, and characterising the case as a most extraordinary one, his honour concluded his judgment as follows: Why Mr. Preece should have advanced the £2 4s to Mrs. Dale I don't know, and I don't believe he did so. I believe it was paid on account. I think the defendant and his wife have behaved very badly indeed. They first of all, in my opinion, commit a fraud against the railway company, and now they try to commit a fraud against a poor lodger-house keeper, which is very disgraceful. I give judgment for the plaintiff for the full amount claimed, with costs.

ALLEGED CRUEL TREATMENT BY RELATIVES.

A telegram from Seattle, Washington Territory, states that a man named Brown, who had been kept in confinement by his brother for twenty-two years as a lunatic, and had only lately been released through the intervention of neighbours, has again disappeared. It is feared that he has once more been placed under restraint by his relatives. Public excitement was created by his disappearance. The chief inspector of the Life Guards from the Royal Guards, who had been a lieutenant in the Guards from 1884 to February, 1889, and was allowed £500 a year by his father. He married at the end of 1884 to a woman named Mrs. Stanhope, in October, 1888. Mrs. Stanhope, who had had previous transactions with the lady, discovered afterwards that she was married to Mr. Lyon, and then sought to make him liable on the ground that the articles were necessities. The defence set up was that the husband knew nothing of the purchase, and that the goods were purchased on the credit of Captain Warner, of Loughborough. Mr. Lyon, in cross-examination, stated that he was a lieutenant in the Life Guards from 1884 to February, 1889, and was allowed £500 a year by his father. He married at the end of 1884 to a woman named Mrs. Stanhope, in October, 1888. Mrs. Stanhope, who had had previous transactions with the lady, discovered afterwards that she was married to Mr. Lyon, and then sought to make him liable on the ground that the articles were necessities. The defence set up was that the husband knew nothing of the purchase, and that the goods were purchased on the credit of Captain Warner, of Loughborough. Mr. Lyon, in cross-examination, stated that he was a lieutenant in the Life Guards from 1884 to February, 1889, and was allowed £500 a year by his father. He married at the end of 1884 to a woman named Mrs. Stanhope, in October, 1888. 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